

**IRELAND'S IMPORTANT AND  
HEROIC PART IN  
AMERICA'S  
INDEPENDENCE AND  
DEVELOPMENT**

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**REYNOLDS**



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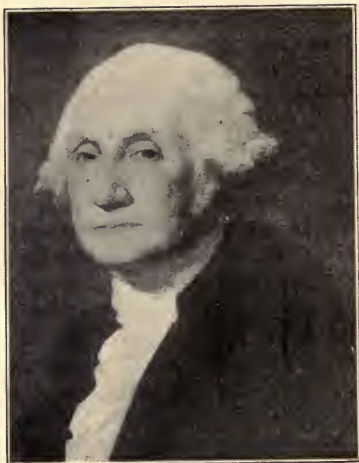
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GEORGE WASHINGTON

*THE FATHER OF OUR COUNTRY*

Ireland's Important  
and  
Heroic Part  
in  
America's Independence  
and  
Development

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By  
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and  
The Illinois Catholic Historical Society

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Supplimentary to Histories in the Schcols

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We, people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves our posterity.



"A voice from America shouted **Liberty**  
and every hill and valley of this rejoicing  
Island answered **Liberty!**

Flood

"There rolled across the Atlantic, the  
echoes of Bunker Hill, and protestant  
dominancy paused in its work of persecution,  
and bowed in homage to the  
Divine Spirit of Liberty."

A. M. Sullivan



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## **PREFACE.**

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The important and heroic part taken by Ireland at home and her people here, in the great achievement of American Independence, and also, the large contribution by the Irish race towards American civilization and industrial development have been, through design or otherwise, almost entirely omitted from our American histories. Yet, no country or race has contributed so much towards these principal causes which have resulted in America's greatness today, than Ireland at home and her people here.

This statement is made, not in disparagement of the other races that have also contributed their share towards the upbuilding of this great Republic. Spain, France, Great Britain, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Poland, Italy and other European countries, have all at various times contributed their quotas. But, from abundant early records entirely reliable and still existing, can be proven that the Irish race has been, even in Colonial days and afterwards, one of the most important factors in the birth and growth of the American Republic. With the exception of the early Spanish,

French, English and Dutch explorers and scattered settlers, the Irish were among the first to come and establish large colonies in Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, the Carolinas, New England, Georgia, the Province of Maryland, and in fact in every one of the original Thirteen Colonies. Many of them occupied the highest and most important offices as Governors, Judges, Lawyers, Physicians, Teachers and Statesmen; and many others are mentioned in the early records as Merchants, Traders, Shipbuilders, Commanders and owners of trading vessels, extensive land owners, builders, etc., etc. Belonging to a hardy and healthy race, they were just the people needed in a new country to lay deep and solid, the foundations of her future greatness.

In those early days, a large commercial intercourse existed between Ireland and the American Colonies, and also a close kindred feeling between both countries. When the Colonies rebelled against English oppression Ireland was the first country in Europe to aid them in their heroic struggle for National Independence. Benjamin Franklin, as diplomatic agent of the United Colonies, visited Ireland in 1769 and again in 1771. His object was, not only to enlist the good will, but also, the active cooperation of the Irish people with the Colonies in their intended fight



for freedom. He was most cordially received by the Irish Parliament and people, and all through the Revolution, Ireland, besides throwing every obstacle in the way to hamper England at home, also directly aided the Colonies with large supplies of provisions, powder and other warlike stores for the use of Washington's army. Not only in the Irish Parliament did Henry Grattan, Hussey Burgh, Connolly, Daly, Ogle and Yelverton, eloquently espouse the American cause, but in the English Parliament also, the powerful speeches of Burke, Connolly, Barre and other Irishmen for American liberty, will forever remain recorded in history. Of all the racial elements in the Colonies, none entered into the struggle for American liberty with greater loyalty and determination, than did the Irish. This arose not only from their love for American liberty, but also from hatred of the common enemy. There were very few, if any, English Loyalists or Tories among the Irish Colonists. They had been driven from Ireland by the same government that oppressed themselves and their children here also. According to the testimonies of Joseph Galloway, Lord George Germain, Lord Cornwallis, Sir Henry Clinton, Major General Grey, Major General Anderson and others, before a Parliamentary inquiry in the British House of Commons, "one

half of the rebel army was Irish, and only one-fourth natives of America, and the other fourth English and Scotch." The vast number of Irish names on the muster roll of the army and navy is amazing! However, it is not numbers alone, but especially discipline and bravery that are effective on the field of battle. That the Irish soldiers are such, no one will deny. What soldiers in the Revolutionary war can compare with the Pennsylvania Line, known as the "Line of Ireland"? "They served everywhere and surrendered nowhere" or, "Colonel Proctor's Irish Artillery"? or "Morgan's celebrated Rifle Corps" who wore upon their breasts the motto: "Liberty or Death"? or Stephen Moylan's famous "Dragoons"? or Colonel John Allan's "Irish Volunteers"? or the Irish Line of Virginia"? or Marion's "South Carolina Brigade"?

The Irish were equally numerous and fought for American liberty as bravely on the sea, as on land, from Commodore Jack Barry, all down the line. While thousands of Irishmen were fighting for liberty on land and sea, other Irishmen were supplying the "sinews of war." Charles Carroll of Carrollton was willing to contribute his millions; and others their thousands and hundreds. The members of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Philadelphia, with Robert Morris, contributed large amounts

toward the establishment for Government use, of the Bank of Pennsylvania; and their wives contributed large amounts for clothing and many other supplies.

The foregoing facts, and many others equally important, which limited space excludes here, have either received but scant mention or have been entirely excluded from our American histories; while on the other hand, everything that would redound to the credit of the Anglo-Saxon element has been prominently presented to the student with the greatest care. No reference is made to the thousands of Anglo-Saxons that abandoned the American cause during the Revolution and fled to Canada and back to England. Sidney George Fisher in his "True History of the American Revolution, p. 234 states: "Even up to one hundred thousand of them left with Sir Guy Carleton, when he evacuated New York." Governor Thomas Hutchinson, in his "Diary and Letters" March 2, 1776, p. 286, also states: "The refugees from America, scared from their ruined homes, had taken flight across the Atlantic, and were pitched down upon England, like rooks upon a cornfield to see what grains they could pick up; but so numerous were the flocks becoming, that the custodians of the granaries in the old country had great difficulty in finding a few grains each for all the

hungry mouths." In reading the history of the Revolution and events preceding it, the general impression usually given is: that the only racial element in the Colonies at that time, that amounted to anything, was the Anglo-Saxon, and that the Revolution was only a family quarrel between the Mother Country and her rebellious children, caused by the blunders of a German King. Moreover, that American liberty was fought for and won mainly by English Colonists and their descendants, and that many of our American Institutions have, and much of our civilization been established by, and handed down to us from our Anglo-Saxon ancestry. These false impressions have had the desired effect upon the minds of many, especially in late years. The result is a very noticeable decline in that strong, healthy, American patriotism of older times. This is not a healthy sign, for as Rev. Thomas N. Burke has truly said: "The future of a nation will perish when her children and grandchildren forget or repudiate their glorious ancestry." When has England been America's friend? Not in Colonial days, nor during the Revolution, nor in 1812, nor during the Civil War, nor ever since. Everything that America possesses today, her Independence, her flag, her institutions, her matchless energy and genius, she has, not from, but

in spite of, England. They are all genuine American and nothing else.

The best means of offsetting this increasing decline in American Patriotism is, to get back to our first fervor. This will be best accomplished by discountenancing all pro-English propaganda, both domestic and foreign, and also by bringing prominently before the minds, especially of our American children, the true facts about the Revolution and what led up to it, and the heroic deeds and noble sacrifices of the great founders of the American Republic. This is the object the author has in view in presenting his work to the public in general, and as a supplementary reading to histories in the schools. The facts contained in the work are founded upon the early records of contemporary witnesses, and are therefore entirely reliable. The names of the authors and references to where the records can be found are given. The work is but a short summary, containing only a brief history of important American events usually not found in our histories. But it is hoped it may lead to a more extensive study of the abundant early records still existing and which contain an immense amount of very important information on the subject treated in this work. This information cannot fail to be intensely instructive and interesting to all fair-minded Americans who de-

sire to see justice done, and credit given to those to whom it is richly deserved. It should be of the greatest interest especially to the Irish race in America and everywhere to learn from unimpeachable sources the inspiring record of the heroic deeds and sacrifices of the men and women of that race who helped to lay deep and solid the foundations of this Republic and cemented them with their blood. It should engender in them a laudable pride in their race, and encourage them to emulate in their day the glorious deeds of their race in the past; and like them be always alert and ready to defend the American flag against any enemy, foreign or domestic, and by closely adhering to the principles of Washington, Jefferson and Monroe, keep America free, independent, sovereign, and faithful to the traditions of the past.

The last-two chapters refer to the large contribution of the Irish people towards American civilization and industrial development — The taming of the wild prairie lands, building of cities, early canal transportation, invention of steamboat-transportation, invention of first cotton mill and first steam railroad in America, building of railroads and highways, early Irish settlers in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio, the Irish immigrant's first home in the clearing, etc.

These chapters are as interesting and thrilling as the preceding ones, and show that "The crimson tide in America's veins is largely Irish."

The Author.

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## PART ONE

The people of Ireland the first in Europe to aid the American colonies in their struggle for liberty.

### CHAPTER I.

#### Suppression of facts, and misleading statements in American History.

Every student of American History knows that the greatest aid given to the Colonists in their struggle for independence, came from the three Catholic countries of France, Ireland and Spain. Aid came also from Poland, another Catholic country.

But whilst most of our American Histories give due credit to France and Spain, it is, indeed, remarkable what scant mention is made of the great part played by Ireland at home and her people here in that heroic event.

Notwithstanding the abundant proofs from authentic records easily obtainable, not only are facts suppressed, but false and misleading statements are made.

Bancroft, in his HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, vol. V., pp. 474, 504, referring to the attitude of the people of Ireland towards

the American Colonists in 1775, says: "When the news from Lexington and Bunker Hill arrived, the Irish Parliament voted that it heard of the rebellion with abhorrence and was ready to show to the world its attachment to the sacred person of the king." He further states: "the people (of Ireland) sent against them (the Americans) some of their best troops and their ablest men." Now, nobody knew better than Bancroft that he was here misrepresenting and perverting the real facts. In the first place, let it be understood that the Irish Parliament was the most corrupt, obsequious, servile, and venal, imaginable. Most of its members were mere hirelings prudently sold to the interest of England; and were most zealous to give good value for their purchase money. Its whole object was to serve the interest of England in every respect, and not the people or interest of Ireland. Half a million held down and coerced over two millions of disarmed and disfranchised people, who at the same time were compelled to contend with the insolence and rapacity of Great Britain. "The Catholic Irish Nation," says Mitchell, Ch. VII, p. 45, "had at that time no more favor or indulgence to hope for at the hands of a Parliament in Dublin than of a Parliament in London." Again p. 56, "By the disfranchisement of five-sixths of the people, by a judicious distribution of

patronage and place among the rest, and by the ever-ready resource of an indefatigable Primate, the Parliament has become perfectly manageable, and the "Patriot party was effectually kept down." Swift has aptly described the Irish Parliament as being:

"Always firm in its vocation  
For the Court **Against** the Nation."

In the second place, let it be understood, that a close commercial and friendly relationship existed between Ireland and the Colonies long before the Revolution. Ships were constantly arriving in American ports from Cork, Waterford, Rextford, Kinsale, Dublin, Limerick, Galway, Sligo, Killala, Coleraine, Newry, Letter-Kenny, Belfast, and Derry. See Barrett (Old Merchants of New York, Vol. III, p. 59). Also John F. Watson—"Annals and Occurrences of New York City and State in olden times." Conditions in the Colonies were well known in Ireland; and a kindred feeling existed between both oppressed countries. Hence, not only was the news of Lexington and Bunker Hill known in Ireland several months before the Irish Parliament took any action in American affairs, but also the capture of guns and ammunition at Fort William and Mary by John Sullivan, delegate to the First Continental Congress, and his brave companions, when "for the first time in American history, the British flag was torn



down in armed rebellion'' in September, 1774. In the Summer of 1775, the Dublin press heralded the glad news of the first naval battle won by the five valiant sons of Morris O'Brien, June 12, 1775. These well-known facts and conditions, could not have been unknown to Bancroft, and, therefore the false impression he evidently intended to establish regarding the attitude of the Irish people towards the American Colonists, shows a lack of the essential qualities requisite in an historian.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE PATRIOT PARTY IN THE IRISH PARLIAMENT NOBLY ESPOUSED THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN LIBERTY.

The Irish Parliament did not vote as Bancroft states, nor did the Irish people "send some of their best troops and ablest men" against the American Colonies.

The "Address to the King" by the Irish Parliament as at first drawn up, contained the words quoted by Bancroft, but slavish and cringing as that Parliament was, they were strongly objected to in the debate before the House, and stricken out by a majority vote of ninety-two to fifty-two. An amendment to the address was then proposed and passed by a vote of ninety-five to fifty-five. (See Journals of the House of Commons of the Kingdom of Ireland, 1776, Vol. 17). The amendment read as follows: "It is with the deepest concern that we hear of the Dissensions that have unfortunately arisen between Great Britain and her Colonies, and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall at all times be ready to manifest our Zeal and Attachment to your Majesty's person and Government, relying upon the Wisdom, Justice and Mercy of your Majesty's Councils

for terminating those Dissensions in the Manner most advantageous for every part of the British Empire."

Opposition against the "Address to the King" would have been much greater were all the members present. Many, though favoring the American cause, absented themselves through fear of displeasing their political bosses. Lecky ("History of Ireland during the 18th Century," Vol. II) states: "The abstention of more than one-half the members of the House of Commons on a question so vitally important, was probably in some degree due to the American sympathies of many members who owed their seats to great borough-owners now in alliance with the government, and who were, therefore, according to the received code of parliamentary honor, precluded from voting against the Ministers."

The Irish people did not send "some of their best troops and ablest men against the American Colonies."

At the time hostilities broke out in America, there were 12,000 troops stationed in Ireland. These troops belonged to the regular army of England and, although a burden upon the Irish people they were completely under the control of the British Government, and by order of the King could be sent to any part of His Majesty's dominions. "In order to offset the growing

sympathy of the Irish people with the Colonists, and as far as possible place the two oppressed countries in an apparent antagonism, Earl Harcourt, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in November, 1775 "at the express command of the King," appeared before the Irish Parliament demanding the services of 4,000 soldiers from Ireland to be despatched to America against the Colonists. At the same time he said, it was His gracious Majesty's intention to replace these four thousand men "with an equal number of foreign protestant soldiers," who were Hessian.

In spite of the strongest opposition from the "Irish Patriot Party," who boldly expressed their sympathy and respect towards the American Colonists in the course of the debate, the message was carried on condition however, that these troops while serving abroad would not be at the expense of Ireland. (See Mitchell, Ch. XVII, p. 117).

Amongst the "Patriot" or "Irish Party" in the Irish Parliament, although greatly in the minority, were many brave and eloquent advocates who voiced the true sentiments of the Irish people towards American independence. The names of Yelverton, Bushe, Hussey Burgh, Connolly, Daly, Ponsonby, Ogle and Henry Grattan will live forever in history as the great champions of American Independence.

From Duffy's Edition (Select speeches of Grattan, p. 104), we extract the following against Flood who voted to send the troops abroad: "With regard to the liberties of America, which were inseparable from ours, I will suppose this gentleman to have been an enemy decided and unreserved; and that he voted against her liberty, and voted moreover, for an address to send four thousand Irish troops to cut the throats of the Americans, that he called these butchers 'Armed Negotiators'; and stood with a metaphor in his mouth, and a bribe in his pocket, a champion against the rights of America, the only hope of Ireland, and the only refuge of the liberties of mankind."

Hussey Burgh declared: that "if America were brought to her knees, Ireland too would be enslaved." He was "wholly opposed to taxing the Americans without their consent." He condemned all aggression against the Americans as "A Violation of that law of nations, the law of the lands, the law of humanity, the law of nature, and he would not vote a single word against them." Ponsonby said: "If troops are sent abroad without our consent, we should not be made parties to the quarrel. If we give our consent, we take part against the Americans, but to do this would be unjust." Ogle in a fiery speech, shouted: "We shall not be intimi-

dated by threats, we shall not send men to cut the throats of the Americans. If men must be sent to America, let them send their foreign mercenaries, not the brave sons of Ireland." Daly, Connolly and Bushe argued that "the members of the Irish Parliament should not make themselves tools of Britain that the next step would be to tax Ireland in the British House of Commons." Newenham declared, "he could not agree to send troops to butcher men who were fighting for their liberty, that though America might be conquered, the spirit of Liberty there could never be subdued." (See Journals of the House of Commons—also New York Packet—Feb. 22-29, 1776.

When the citizens of Dublin became aware of what the Parliament had done, the entire city became violently agitated. An angry mob stormed the Parliament House; the residence of the Lord-Lieutenant was attacked, and was saved from destruction only by the timely arrival of armed soldiers. A call was sent out by the leading citizens for a public meeting in Phoenix Park to protest against the action of Parliament. The expressions of the speakers and the intense feeling of the people left no doubt as regards their earnest sympathy with the American Colonists. A dispatch from London and appearing in the Pennsylvania Gazette June 5, 1776, states, "Advices from Dublin say

this Capital will soon be too hot for the Viceroy to remain much longer, so that another must speedily be appointed in his room." When the action of Parliament became known throughout Ireland the indignation of the people could not be restrained. Riots broke out all over Ireland, and members of Parliament were attacked on their way home from Dublin. These riots became so serious that the British Government became alarmed, and the Pennsylvania Gazette dated Nov. 15, 1775, published the following news from London: "Insurrections of a very alarming and dangerous nature are dreaded in Ireland in the course of the ensuing Spring, if troops be not sent over from this country to replace the Irish regiments serving in America." The same paper dated Nov. 27, 1775, again published news from London as follows: "Orders have been dispatched to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and to the Commander-in-Chief there to put that Kingdom in the best posture of defense without delay and to execute the Laws for disarming the Roman Catholics with great strictness." Another event showing the popular feeling is mentioned by Mitchell (*History of Ireland* Ch. XVII, p. 118) as follows: "When the four thousand troops were designated for this American Service, an honorable action deserves to be recorded; the Earl of Effingham, finding that the regiment

in which he served was destined to act against the Colonies, thought it inconsistent with his character and unbecoming his dignity to enforce measures with his sword, which he had condemned in his legislative character. He therefore wrote a letter to the Secretary of War resigning his command in the army, and stating his reasons for it. This conduct rendered the nobleman extremely popular, and the City of Dublin at the Midsummer quarter assembly, voted public thanks to Lord Effingham "for having consistently with the principles of a true Englishman refused to draw his sword against the lives and liberties of his fellow-subjects in America." Soon after an address of thanks in fuller terms, was presented to him from the guild of Merchants of Dublin, the latter also presented an address of thanks to the several peers, who, (as they said) "in support of the constitution, and in opposition to a weak and wicked administration, protested against the American Restraining Bills." This address, with the several answers of the lords to whom it was presented, appeared at that time in the public papers, and produced a very strong sensation throughout the nation.

Considering all these undeniable facts, which could not have escaped the attention of Bancroft, what can be said of his statements that, "the Irish Parliament voted that it heard of



the American rebellion with abhorrence, and was ready to show the world its attachment to the sacred person of the King?" And again—The people (of Ireland) sent against them (the Americans) some of their best troops, and their ablest men?" It is very evident that his motive was not only to conceal and pervert facts, but especially by creating a false impression to discredit the Irish people in the minds of the Americans, an act contemptible in a great historian.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT.

Not only in the Irish, but also in the English Parliament there were powerful and eloquent Irish advocates and defenders of the American cause. Amongst these may be particularly mentioned the names of the three great Irishmen: Burke, Connolly, and Berré or Barry, who, fearlessly and eloquently pleaded the cause of American liberty. The Pennsylvania Gazette of Feb. 1, 1775, says of them: that they were "ever on the side of Liberty and Justice." The speeches of Burke and Barry on American Affairs were published in the Philadelphia papers in 1774 and 1775 and aided much in stimulating the American Colonists. All during the Revolution they fearlessly advocated the rights of America. Wharton in his "Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution" Vol. 1, p. 77, says: "They openly proclaimed in Parliament their correspondence with Franklin, and they united with Chatham in holding that every British and Hessian Victory was a victory over English freedom and in publicly giving encouragement to the American insurgents." Burke, in a powerful speech, expressed his delight in America's victories and counselled his own Irish countrymen "Not

to Join the Army while the American War continued." The newspapers of the day declared "the Ministry trembled under his terrible invective and the walls of Parliament never before resounded under such thunderous eloquence." Connolly, in a strong speech, warned the British Parliament saying: "If the French landed in the South of Ireland every man there would join them, and if the Americans landed in the North, they will be just as gladly received there." Barry, a native of Dublin, had lived for some years in the Colonies during which time he became associated with many of the leading men. He was therefore familiar with the causes of American discontent. In the British Parliament he proved himself to be one of the most ardent and loyal friends of America. Arthur Lee, in a letter from London to Samuel Adams, June 10, 1771, stated: "The best friend you have here is Colonel Barre." (See *Life of Arthur Lee* by R. H. Lee, Vol. 1, p. 216). And, Sidney George Fisher in "The true History of the American Revolution" p. 219, states: "Barre was our great friend in Parliament and was more dreaded than any other orator of the opposition." In his powerful speech against Townsend, Chancellor of the Exchequer, preserved in Lossing's "Field Book of the Revolution," Vol. 1, pp. 162, 163, relative to the pass-

ing of the Stamp Act, 1765, he designated the struggling Americans as "those Sons of Liberty." Copies of this great speech were circulated in America, and attracted widespread admiration. Patriotic associations were formed and adopted the name: "Sons of Liberty." Thus it was the Irishman Barry, who originated the name: "Sons of Liberty," and gave rise to that patriotic association which first aroused the spirit of liberty in the Colonists and began the agitation which eventually brought on the Revolution. While referring to actions in the British Parliament, it may be well to mention a certain incident which shows a most sincere regard for the interests of America. In order in some way to conciliate Ireland at the expense of the Colonies, certain measures were proposed in the British Parliament to benefit the Irish fisheries; also a bounty of five shillings per barrel was to be allowed on all flax seed imported into Ireland from America, and bounties for encouraging the whale fisheries, and the duties were to be removed from the importation of oil, blubber, and whalebone from Newfoundland, as also on the importation of seal skins. Mitchell, p. 117, thus describes the incident: "A part of the policy of this petty measure was to give to Ireland some portion of the benefits of which the war would deprive America." Mr. Burke, on this occasion, while

he thanked Lord North for the trifling boon to his country, took occasion to say that "however desirous he might be to promote any scheme for the advantage of Ireland, he would be much better pleased that the benefits thus held out should never be realized than that Ireland should profit at the expense of a country, which was, if possible, more oppressed than herself."

But it was not in the Irish and British Parliaments alone, that America had her most loyal friends and ardent supporters. As we have already seen, a large commercial intercourse existed between Ireland and America, also many thousands of the oppressed from Ireland had emigrated to the Colonies long before the Revolution. Many of these became prominent not only in the various professions, but also leaders in Civic and National affairs, and a kindred feeling existed between both countries. "The obvious community of interests," says Mitchell, "which Ireland had with those Transatlantic Colonies, made their case the theme of conversation in private circles, as well as of debates in parliament." This community of interest is seen not only during the Revolution, but even when the infamous Stamp Act was repealed in 1766. In the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury of March 31, 1766, is printed a dispatch from Philadelphia stating

"A Vessel has arrived from Cork at Oxford, in Maryland, the Captain of which brought a Cork Newspaper, in which was a Paragraph taken from one printed in Dublin, containing a letter from a Member of Parliament to his friend in Ireland, dated about the last of January, the substance of which was: That everything relating to the Affairs of America was settled, that the Stamp Act was to be repealed. These glad tidings spread a general joy all over the City, our bells were set aringing at night, bonfires were lighted and the evening was spent most agreeably by the inhabitants." The same paper dated, April 21, 1766, gives an account of the arrival of the ship, *Hibernia*, from Ireland and publishes a letter from Londonderry, dated March 9, "This day the Packet brought the agreeable news to this town of the Stamp Act being repealed, which, be assured, has given us all here infinite pleasure. This goes by the *Hibernia*, Captain Keith, by whom we have the pleasure to inform you of the repeal of the Stamp Act." Another dispatch to the *Mercury* dated, Philadelphia June 2, 1766, states: "From the different parts of Ireland our accounts are that the rejoicings on account of the repeal of the Stamp Act were very general as well as very great there." These statements published in the *New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury* give us an inside view of the

very close relationship existing between the people of Ireland and America. From them we also learn that the first glad news of the repeal of the Stamp Act was conveyed from Ireland to America by the "Good Ship Hibernia."

But it was when the Revolution broke out that the people of Ireland went heart and soul into the movement, and aided in every possible way the struggling Colonists. When America at Lexington and Bunker Hill, lit and held aloft the torch of Liberty, it was immediately hailed with joy in Ireland. "A Voice from America," says Flood, "shouted Liberty, and every hill and valley of this rejoicing island, answered 'Liberty.'" And, A. M. Sullivan said, "There rolled across the Atlantic the echoes of Bunker Hill, and Protestant dominancy paused in its work of persecution, and bowed in homage to the Divine Spirit of Liberty."

## CHAPTER IV.

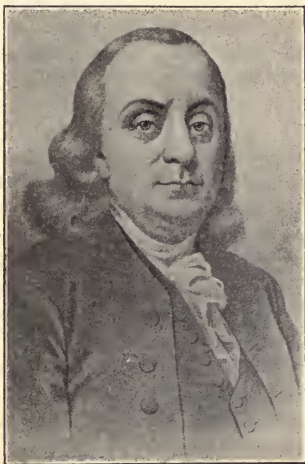
### BENJAMIN FRANKLIN IN IRELAND.

As diplomatic agent of the United Colonies Franklin went to Ireland in 1769 and again in 1771, where he met the principal patriots.

Everywhere the people received him with a genuine "Caed Mille Failthe" and the citizens of the Capital prepared a most splendid banquet in his honor. His letters which are still in possession of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia tell of the impressions made upon him in Ireland. In his letter to Dr. Samuel Cooper of Boston, April 27, 1769, he states, "All Ireland is strongly in favor of the American cause. They have reason to sympathize with us. I send you four pamphlets written in Ireland by Irish gentlemen in which you will find some excellent, well-said things." Again, writing to Dr. Cooper April 4, 1770, Franklin states: "I send you a later edition of Molineaux's "Case of Ireland," with a new preface shrewdly written. Our part is warmly taken by the Irish in general, there being in many points a similarity in our cause." On January 13, 1772, Franklin wrote to James Bowdoin, stating: "In Ireland among the patriots, I dined with Doctor Lucas. They are all friends of America, in which I said every-



thing I could think of to confirm them. Lucas gave "Mr. Bowdoin" for his toast." Franklin was presented before the Irish Parliament in Dublin and in his letter to Thomas Cushing, Speaker of the Massachusetts General Assembly, he states, "I stayed till the opening of



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Parliament and met the principal patriots there. I found them disposed to be friends of America, in which I endeavored to confirm them with the expectation that our growing weight might in time be thrown into their

scale, and by joining our interest with theirs, might be obtained for them as well as for us a more equitable treatment for this nation. The gentry are very sensible, polite, friendly, and handsome people. Their Parliament makes a most respectable appearance, with a number of very good speakers in both parties, and able men of business." On a question put to the House by the Speaker, whether Franklin should be admitted in the House among the members or merely in the gallery, Franklin states, "On the question, the whole House gave a loud, unanimous Aye! When two members came to me without the bar where I was standing, led me in, and placed me very honorably. This I am more particular to you, as I deem it a mark of respect for our country and a piece of politeness in which I hope our Parliament will not fall behind theirs, whenever an occasion shall offer." Numerous extracts might be quoted from Franklin's other letters, all showing the close and cordial relation existing between Ireland and the Colonies.

Flax, from which the famous Irish linen is made, was extensively grown in Ireland, and much of the seed was supplied from America.

The following is from a letter to his son, Governor William Franklin of New Jersey, dated, London, June 30, 1774, referring to the agreement of the Continental Congress to stop all

trade with England: "I should be sorry if Ireland is included in your agreement, because that country is much our Friend, and the want of flax seed may distress them exceedingly, but your merchants can best judge. It can only be meant against England to ensure a change of measures, and not to hurt Ireland, with whom we have no quarrel."

FRANKLIN'S "ADDRESS TO THE GOOD  
PEOPLE OF IRELAND."  
ON BEHALF OF  
AMERICA.

From France, Oct. 4, 1778, Franklin sent the following address to the good people of Ireland:

"The misery and distress which your ill-fated country has been so frequently exposed to, and has so often experienced by such a combination of rapine, treachery and violence, as would have disgraced the name of government in the most arbitrary country in the world, have most sincerely affected your friends in America, and have engaged the most serious attention of Congress. I have in my commission to repeat to you my good friends, the cordial concern that Congress takes in everything that relates to the happiness of Ireland; they are sensibly affected by the load of oppressive

pensions on your establishment; the arbitrary and illegal exactions of public money by King's letters; the profuse dissipation by sinecure appointments, with large salaries, and the very arbitrary and impolitic restrictions of your trade and manufactures, which are beyond example in the history of the world, and can only be equalled by that illiberal spirit which directs it, and which has shown itself so abundantly in petitions from all parts of their islands, and in the debates of their House of Commons when you had been lately amused with the vain hope of an extension of your trade, and which were conducted with such temper and language as might be supposed to suit their copper-colored allies in America, but must fix a stain on the character of a civilized nation forever. But as for you, our dear and good friends of Ireland, we must cordially recommend to you to continue peaceable and quiet in every possible situation of your affairs, and endeavor by mutual good will to supply the defects of administration. But if the government whom you at this time acknowledge, does not, in conformity to her own true interest, take off and remove every restraint on your trade, commerce, and manufactures, I am charged to assure you, that means will be found to establish your freedom in this respect, in the fullest and amplest manner. And as it is the

ardent wish of America to promote, as far as her other engagements will permit, a reciprocal commercial interest with you, I am to assure you, they will seek every means to establish and extend it; and it has given the most sensible pleasure to have those instructions committed to my care, as I have ever retained the most perfect good-will and esteem for the people of Ireland."

No words could express or convey stronger assurances of friendship, and pledges of assistance on the part of America to Ireland, than those contained in Franklin's "Address." The American people ought not to forget, that, as the representative, and upon the authority of the Continental Congress itself, Franklin gave these assurances of friendship, and solemn pledges of American aid in establishing the liberties of Ireland.

#### OUTRAGEOUS INDIGNITIES HEAPED UP- ON FRANKLIN BY OFFICIALS OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN LONDON.

In Ireland, Franklin was received everywhere with the greatest respect and esteem; in England, with the greatest indignity and contempt. When the Massachusetts General Assembly in Feb., 1774, sent to Franklin a "Petition" to be

presented to the King, complaining of the tyrannical actions of Governor Hutchinson and praying for his removal, the King referred the matter to his Privy Council for investigation. Franklin was summoned to give evidence before the Council. The report of the proceedings is printed in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of April 22, 1774, as follows: "London, February 19, 1774—The Ministerial People here are outrageously angry with Dr. Franklin. They took occasion, when he attended the Council with a Petition of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, to set the Solicitor-General upon him, who, leaving the business there was before their Lordships, in a Virulent Invective of an Hour, filled with Scurrility, abused him personally, to the great Entertainment of Thirty-Five Lords of the Privy Council, who had been purposefully invited as to a Bull-Baiting, and not one of them had the Sense to reflect of the Impropriety and Indecency of treating, in so ignominious a manner a Public Messenger, whose Character in all Nations, savage as well as civilized, used to be deemed Sacred, and his Person under Protection, even when coming from an Enemy. Nor did one of them check the Orator's Extravagance, and recall him to the Point under Consideration, but generally appeared much delighted, chuckling, laughing, and sometimes loudly applauding." It is stated, that Frank-

lin during all this outrage, remained admirably calm and unperturbed. No change was visible on his mild yet firm countenance. The insults however cut deep. He left the Council meeting determined never to wear his brown suit in which he was familiarly known until he had received ample satisfaction. Ten years later, he put it on again, at the signing of the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain, and the United States of America. The writer of the dispatch to the Gazette relative to the outrageous conduct of the members of the Privy Council states: "I did not think it possible for any Persons in their Stations, to behave in a manner so extremely unbecoming, especially when sitting in a Judicial capacity. I never was in America, but I do not believe, that any Judges or Justices in any of your Inferior Courts in the back Countries, would have conducted themselves, with so little Dignity, or have disgraced themselves so much, as to suffer a Lawyer to treat even a Criminal at their Bar with so much outrage." When the news of the outrage reached America, it immediately created an intense feeling of anger and indignation. The Pennsylvania Gazette of May 4, 1774, published an account of the burning at Philadelphia of the effigies of Governor Hutchinson and Mr. Wadderburne, the British Solicitor-General, by a large concourse of people "who

testified their resentment against the Originals, with the loudest Acclamation."

### IRISH MILITARY AND NAVAL OFFICERS IN FRENCH AND SPANISH ARMIES OFFER SERVICES TO FRANKLIN.

Franklin received nearly two hundred letters from Military and Naval Officers of distinction in the famous "Irish Brigade" that had won immortal renown in the armies of France and Spain, offering to resign their Commissions, and join the American forces. These letters are still in the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia. Among them are letters from Compte O'Donnell, Colonel of the Polish regiment at Lemberg, Baron O'Caill, Commander of the French troops at Strasburg, Captain O'Heguerty of Nancy, Captain O'Meara, Cavalier O'Gorman, Captain McCarthy Moore of Boulogne, Captain James Byrnes, Commander of a Merchant Ship, Patrick Dowling, Captain of the Privateer "Black Prince," Luke Ryan, Captain of the Privateer "Fearnot," Dr. Ignatius McMahon of the Military School of Paris, Rev. William Nixon, an Irish Catholic Priest; and a host of others, too numerous to mention. Some of them offered not only their own services, but their ships also.



This mutual and kindred feeling is again manifested in the Resolution, presented by the Committee on Trade October 2, 1775, and unanimously passed by the Continental Congress as follows: "As the Cessation of American trade with Ireland originated in policy dictated by principles of self-preservation, and may be attended with distress to a people who have always manifested a noble regard to the rights of mankind and have been friendly to these much injured Colonies; your committee are of opinion that great kindness and attention ought to be paid to such of that oppressed nation as have or may come to settle in America, and it earnestly be recommended by this Congress to the good people of these Colonies to let them have land at a cheap rate, and on easy terms. And that the several conventions and assemblies and committees throughout these Confederate Counties afford them aid, and do them every friendly office. And it having been represented to your committee that the withholding of flax seed from Ireland will be attended with a much greater degree of distress and ruin to the poor of that Kingdom than the Congress apprehended, they are of opinion that our friends and fellow subjects in Ireland should be permitted to take flax seed from

these Colonies in exchange for all such powder, or other military stores, and woolen yarn of their manufacture as they shall bring to America.”

## CHAPTER V.

### ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND BY THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS AT PHILADELPHIA, JULY 28, 1775

Perhaps the most convincing proof of the mutual bonds of friendship and sympathy existing between the people of America and Ireland is seen in the splendid address by the Continental Congress itself on July 28, 1775, now in the Library of Congress. Its object was, by stating the true case of the Colonists to counteract the gross misrepresentation of the British Government. A few extracts will suffice: "And here permit us to assure you that it was with the utmost reluctance we could prevail upon ourselves to cease our commercial connection with your island. Your Parliament has done us no wrong. You have ever been friendly to the rights of mankind, and we acknowledge with pleasure and gratitude, that your nation has produced patriots who have nobly distinguished themselves in the cause of humanity and America. On the other hand, we were not ignorant that the labor and manufactures of Ireland, like those of the silk-worm, were of little moment to herself; but served only to

give luxury to those who neither toil nor spin. We perceived that if we continue our commerce with you, our agreement not to import from Britain would be fruitless, and were, therefore, compelled to adopt a measure which nothing but absolute necessity would have reconciled us. It gave us, however, some consolation to reflect that should it occasion much distress, the fertile regions of America would afford you a safe asylum from poverty, and, in time, from oppression also; an asylum in which thousands of your countrymen have found hospitality, peace, affluence, and became united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, mutual interest, and affection. Accept our most grateful acknowledgments for the friendly disposition you have always shown to us. We know that you are not without your grievances. We sympathize with you in your distress, and are pleased to find that the design of subjugating us, has persuaded the administration to dispense to Ireland some vagrant rays of ministerial sunshine. Even the tender mercies of government have long been cruel towards you. In the rich pastures of Ireland many hungry paricides have fed, and grown strong to labor in its destruction. Of their friendly disposition we do not yet despond, aware as they must be that they have nothing more to expect from the same enemy that the humble favor of being

the last devoured. We hope the patient abiding of the meek may not always be forgotten; and God grant that the iniquitous scheme of extirpating liberty by the British Empire may soon be defeated."

Referring to British oppression of the Colonies, the Address states "Instead of directions for a candid inquiry into our grievances, insult was added to oppression, and our long forbearance rewarded with imputation of cowardice. Our peaceful assemblies for the purpose of consulting the common good, were declared seditious. Compelled, therefore, to behold thousands of our countrymen, in prison, and men, women and children involved in promiscuous misery; when we find all faith at an end, and sacred treaties turned into tricks of state; when we perceive our friends and kinsmen massacred, our inhabitants plundered, our homes in flames, and our once happy inhabitants fed only by the hand of charity: Who can blame us for endeavoring to restrain the progress of desolation? Who can censure our repelling the attacks of such a murderous band? Who in such circumstances, would not obey the great, the universal, the Divine law of self-preservation?"

## CHAPTER VI.

### THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TRIED IN VAIN TO ENLIST THE MEN OF IRELAND TO FIGHT AGAINST AMERICA.

From various letters and dispatches which appeared in the New York Journal, Pennsylvania Gazette, The Secret Committee of Correspondence, New York Royal Gazette, and other publications of that time we learn, that although the British Government offered every inducement to the men of Ireland such as "The glorious panoply of war," Exemption from taxes," Guinea Bounties," King's Bounty," Larger Pay," etc., etc. Yet all of these were spurned by the people who said: "We must help our friends in America to gain their independence." The Catholics who hitherto were disqualified on account of their religion, from every privilege, were now freely offered every possible inducement. The Government even went so far as to arouse bigotry amongst the people. In the South of Ireland appeals were made on the ground that the Americans were Protestant, and in the North, that the Americans were about to establish the Papacy in America. When bribery failed, brute force was used.

Arthur Lee, Confidential Agent in Europe of the Secret Committee of Correspondence, writing to Washington from Berlin, June 15, 1777, states: "The resources of our enemy are almost annihilated in Germany, and their last resort is the Roman Catholics of Ireland. They have already experienced their unwillingness to go, every man of a regiment raised there last year having obliged them to ship him off tied and bound, and most certainly they will desert more than any troops whatsoever." Lord Kenmare, and other influential Catholic landlords, in order to gain favor with the King, sought to persuade their Catholic countrymen to enlist for the American service. That their efforts utterly failed we see from a letter in the New York Journal, dated Oct. 12, 1775, as follows: "The Earl of Kenmare, and the Earl of Cahir both offered "A bounty of a half guinea to all Volunteers enlisting with Major Roche," but when this Major Roche tried to raise recruits in Cork, he was "driven from the City by an angry mob." He received the same kind of a reception in Limerick. In many places through the West of Ireland, the recruiting officers were driven from the towns, and their fifes and drums taken and broken up. Lecky says: "Recruits in Ireland came in very slowly, for there was no enthusiasm in Ireland for the war and the press-gangs met with unusual re-

sistance." From a letter "published by order of Congress" appearing in the Pennsylvania Packet, Nov. 27, 1775, we extract the following: "Never did the recruiting parties meet with such ill-success in every part of this Kingdom as at present; so invincible is the dislike of all ranks of people to the American service. The inhabitants of Bandon, Youghal, Birr and other towns have entered into a resolution not to suffer any among them to enlist for the purpose of enslaving their American Brethren. There have been no less than five parties at once in Charleville, and after stunning the town, God knows how long, with their fifes and drums, they were able to pick up only one recruit, who was under Mr. Robert's influence.

Even Lord Kenmare, who, on this occasion, took the lead, had his recruiting party severely beat up in Tralee, and their drums broken to pieces. The renowned Captain Harlequin, whose success in this town last war has encouraged him to renew his antic tricks here now finds himself with all his buffoonery sadly disappointed, and several of those he had trepanned have already deserted. Many of the draughts, that have come here to fill up the regiments ordered abroad, swear they will never draw a trigger against the Americans among whom they have relations. And most of the soldiers that left this last April and May ex-



pressed so much repugnance to the service they are ordered on that I am fully persuaded if your army was not shut up in Boston, it must suffer severely by desertion." Many of the Irish soldiers who belonged to the English regular army deserted and fought under Washington. Nothing was more frequent in the New York and other newspapers than advertisements and descriptions of Irish deserters from the British to the American army, and offering a reward for their capture dead or alive. General Howe, writing to the Earl of Dartmouth dated Boston, November 26, 1775, relative to the number of recruits to be sent over the following Spring states: "If these recruits were "chiefly composed of Irish Roman Catholics, they are certain to desert if put to hard work." General Pattison, Commandant of the British Royal Artillery also writing to General Cleveland, September 5, 1779, said: "I must desire that no Parties may be sent to Ireland to recruit for my Batallion. I have more already than I could wish from that country, and I am informed by Captain Chapman that forty-nine of the men enlisted there have deserted." These, and many more references can be found in the American Archives, also New York Historical Society Collections.

## CHAPTER VII.

BRITISH ARMY SUPPLIES DESTROYED  
IN IRELAND. — AMERICAN PRIVATEERS  
WELCOMED AND ASSISTED IN IRISH  
HARBORS. — ETHAN ALLEN, PRISONER  
ON AN ENGLISH VESSEL, SUCCORED BY  
THE CITIZENS OF CORK.

Not only did the Irish directly aid America to establish her independence, but also indirectly, by throwing every possible obstacle in England's way notwithstanding the danger of trial and execution for "High Treason." They destroyed large factories in Cork, Dublin, and Belfast, where clothing and other supplies were being manufactured for the British army. They seized and destroyed large supplies of war materials on their way to the troop ships. In the *Pennsylvania Packet* of November 12, 1776, the following appeared: "A private letter from Cork by the (ship) *Endeavour*, arrived on Wednesday in the river, the Master of which reported that a large body of people on horseback attacked several carriages which were coming to that place with provisions for the government ships, that they took all the horses

out, and afterwards the provisions, sent the drivers back with the horses to tell their owners that if they ever met them again carrying provisions off, they would murder them and their horses. They then set fire to the carriages and burned them to ashes." Meetings were held all over Ireland, at which money was collected for the American Army. A Dublin dispatch appearing in the Pennsylvania Gazette dated October 30, 1776, states: "We hear that the instructions from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty of Great Britain arrived here by the last packet for the condemnation of all American ships and merchandise that may be taken by any ship of war or privateer and brought into any port of this Kingdom, and confiscating the same as lawful prizes. We also hear, in expectation of this event, the free citizens of Dublin are raising subscriptions for the use of such American crews as shall be confined in the gaols of this Kingdom, as they happen to be brought in." American Privateers were welcomed and protected in Irish harbors, plentifully supplied with food and clothing, and their depleted crews recruited by brave young Irishmen. In the Pennsylvania Gazette of March 5, May 4 and June 17, 1777, reports are made of various American Privateer vessels in Irish harbors. One of these reports states, that, at Galway "two American Priva-

teers put in to procure fresh water and provisions," and again, "A large American Privateer put into the River Shannon and sent a boat on shore to procure some fresh provisions and fresh water, which they were readily supplied with, but sent the Commanding Officer word that his stay there might be disagreeable as some men-of-war from England were hourly expected there, upon which, the Captain of the Privateer weighed anchor and sailed away."

Ethan Allen was Colonel of the Mountain Boys of Vermont who captured Fort Ticonderoga May 10, 1775. He bravely aided the valiant Irish General Montgomery in his Canadian expedition, but was taken prisoner by the English near Montreal, September 25, 1775, and put on board a transport ship at Quebec. After receiving a most cruel and barbarous treatment on the voyage, he at length arrived in Cork harbor, Ireland. How he was succored by genuine Irish hospitality is related in a letter from Cork published in the Pennsylvania Packet May 5, 1776, as follows: "The following occurrence must give satisfaction to the friends of suffering America: When Colonel Ethan Allen, with about fifty other prisoners, arrived in the Solebay, two gentlemen went on board to enquire into their situation and to assure them of the disposition of several gentle-

men in this City to alleviate their distress. Colonel Allen was so affected with this instance of unexpected generosity, that the expression of his gratitude could hardly find utterance. His treatment on board the *Solebay* is far different from the barbarous and cruel usage he experienced in his passage from Quebec, being then handcuffed and ironed in the most dreary part of the vessel, and basely insulted with cruel and unmanly reflections by some officers of the ship, whom he challenged in Cornwall, without receiving any satisfaction. A subscription was begun this morning among some friends of the cause and nearly fifty guineas collected to buy clothes for his men and necessities for himself, and if liberty can be got from Captain Williams to put live stock on board, I can assure you Colonel Allen will be exceedingly well provided. We this day sent a hamper of wine, sugar, fruit, chocolate, etc., on board for his immediate use, and tomorrow intend to prepare the sundry articles of which he sent a list. I enclose a rough copy of his answer to our letter. Should he have permission to come on shore, he will be entertained by some of the first gentlemen of this City. I have not been refused by a single person on the subscription."

The following is Colonel Allen's response:

Gentlemen:

I received your generous present this day, with a joyful heart. Thanks to God, there are still the feelings of humanity in the worthy citizens of Cork towards those of your bone and flesh, who, through the misfortune from the present broils in the empire, are needy prisoners.

E. Allen.

Dated Cove, January 24, 1776.

In a narrative of his captivity written by himself and published at Burlington, Vermont, in 1779, Colonel Allen describes the foregoing incident as follows: "It was soon rumored in Cork that I was aboard the *Solebay*, with a number of prisoners from America, upon which Messrs. Clark and Hayes, merchants in company, and a number of other benevolently disposed gentlemen, contributed largely to the relief and support of the prisoners, who were in very needy circumstances. Each man had bestowed on him a suit of clothes from head to foot, including an overcoat and two shirts." His own gifts he enumerates as follows: "Superfine broadcloths, sufficient for two jackets and two pair of breeches, overplus of a suit throughout, eight fine holland shirts and stocks

ready made, with a number of pairs of silk and worsted hose, two pairs of shoes, two beaver hats, one of which was sent richly laced with gold by Mr. James Bonwell. The Irish gentlemen, furthermore, made a large gratuity of wines of the best sort, old spirits, Geneva loaf and brown sugar, coffee, tea, and chocolate, with a large round of pickled beef, and a number of fat turkeys, with many other articles for my sea stores, too tedious to mention here.

As this munificence was so unexpected, plentiful, and, I may add needful, it impressed on my mind the highest sense of gratitude towards my benefactors; for I was not only supplied with necessities and conveniences of life, but with the grandeurs and superfluities of it. Mr. Hayes, one of the donators before mentioned, came on board, and behaved in the most obliging manner, telling me he hoped my troubles were passed, for that the gentlemen of Cork determined to make my sea stores equal to that of the Captain of the *Solebay's*. He made an offer of live stock and wherewith to support them, but I knew this would be denied. And to crown all, did send to me by another person fifty guineas, but I could not reconcile receiving the whole to my own feelings, as it might have the appearance of avarice; and therefore, received but seven guineas only, and am confident, not only from the exercise of the present

well-timed generosity, but from a large acquaintance with gentlemen of this nation, that as a people they excel in liberality and bravery. All of the provisions were conveyed on board during the absence of the Captain and by the connivance of a friendly lieutenant. He further relates "Two days after the receipt of the aforesaid donations, Captain Symonds came on board, full of envy, towards the prisoners, and swore by all that is good, that the damned American rebels should not be feasted at this rate by the damned rebels of Ireland. He therefore, took away all my liquors before mentioned, and all the tea and sugar, except some wine, which was secreted, and confiscated them to the use of the ship's crew. Soon after this there came a boat to the side of the ship, and Captain Symonds asked a gentleman who was in it, in my hearing, what his business was. He answered that he was sent to deliver some sea stores to Colonel Allen, which, if I remember right, he said, were sent from Dublin; but the Captain damned him very heartily, ordered him away from the ship, and would not suffer him to deliver the stores. I was further informed that the gentlemen in Cork requested of Captain Symonds that I might be allowed to come into the City, and that they would be responsible I should return to the frigate at a given time, which was denied them. We sailed



from the Cove of Cork on the 12th of February, the prisoners having been distributed among the different war ships. The fleet consisted of forty-five sail, carrying several thousand troops, and their destination was the American Coast. When we had reached Madeira and anchored, sundry gentlemen, with the Captain, went on shore, who, I conclude, gave the rumor that I was in the frigate, upon which I soon after found Irish generosity was again excited, for a gentleman of that nation sent his clerk on board to know of me if I would accept a sea store from him, particularly of wine."

Notwithstanding the laws of neutrality, and that it was an act of High Treason to do so, the Irish Merchants took every risk in shipping not only provisions, but also large supplies of powder and other warlike stores for the use of Washington's Army. Some of these were shipped to French ports, and reshipped to the Island of Martinique, and thence to America. Others were landed in the West Indies, and reshipped to Charleston and Savannah. In his speech to the House of Commons, Feb. 17, 1777, advocated a bill suspending the Habeas Corpus Act. Colonel Luttrell reported "A ship loaded with fire arms, warlike stores, and ammunition of all kinds intended for America, was seized in the port of Dublin." Indeed so defiantly did Ireland aid America,

that English warships were dispatched to patrol the Irish Coast, so that the newspapers of that time reported the capture of many valuable cargoes. No wonder Pitt declared in the British House of Commons, in 1775: "Ireland they have to a man," and Horace Walpole, writing to the Countess of Ossory, stated, "I heard the other day from a very good authority that all Ireland was America mad."

The present article is little more than a short sketch, or concise summary of historical facts. Many others equally authentic can be presented. But, brief as it is, it brings to light many things hitherto hidden, or suppressed, in our American histories. And, considering the abundance of facts easily obtainable; the only conclusion one can come to is, that, this concealing and suppressing have been designedly done for the purpose of depriving the people of Ireland of the credit they are justly entitled to, in so largely and loyally aiding the American Colonists to achieve their Independence.

The following part will treat of the prominent and heroic part played by the Colonial Irish here, in the Revolutionary war, under Washington.

## PART TWO.

### IMPORTANT AND HEROIC PART TAKEN BY THE COLONIAL IRISH HERE, IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AMERI- CAN INDEPENDENCE.

#### CHAPTER I.

“No treason we bring from Erin—nor bring  
    we shame nor guilt;  
The swords we hold may be broken, but we  
    have not dropped the hilt;  
The wreath we bear to Columbia is twisted  
    of thorns, not bays:  
And the songs we sing are saddened with the  
    thoughts of desolate days.  
But the hearts we bring for Freedom are  
    washed in the surge of tears,  
And we claim our right by a people’s fight  
    outliving a thousand years.”

John Boyle O'Reilly.

Not only in Ireland at home, but her people here were largely instrumental in achieving American Independence. The general impression here in the United States is, that emigration from Ireland to America, did not amount to much prior to the early part of the Nine

teenth Century, and consequently the Irish People could not have taken any prominent part in the American Revolution. This very erroneous impression arises from the fact, that the histories written for, and read by our American people have, through design or otherwise, suppressed nearly all reference to the vast number of Irish in the Colonies, long before the Revolution and the very important part that race played in the achievement of American Independence. In fact, so profusely and extravagantly is the Anglo-Saxon element in the Colonies, exhibited and extolled, that one is led to believe that there were very few of other races here, and that the Revolution was merely a family-fight between the Mother-Country England, and her disobedient and rebellious children in the Colonies. Moreover, that the independence of America was fought for and won, almost exclusively, by the liberty-loving Anglo-Saxon Colonists. Had we no other records but the "Address of the Continental Congress to the people of Ireland," July 28, 1775, wherein reference is made to the many thousands from Ireland who had already found in the Colonies "hospitality, peace, affluence, and become united to us by all the ties of consanguinity, mutual interest and affection," this would be sufficient to show the large percentage of Irish in the Colonies prior to the Revolu-

tion. But abundant proofs are found in the numerous records of the Colonial land offices, the offices of the Secretaries of States, the Council Journals, the deaths, births and marriages in the parish registers of Colonial churches, the records of the Surrogates, and County Courts, the Registrars of Wills and Deeds, the Custom House records, the States Archives, the Minutes of the Selectmen, the Journals of the Geological and Historical Societies, the Muster-rolls of the Colonial and Revolutionary armies, and numerous other records, all showing the vast numbers that had emigrated to the Colonies in early days from all parts of Ireland. When we read the immense numbers of old Irish names still to be found in these records, we cannot avoid wondering what the object must have been for the almost total omission of any reference to these people in our American histories.

## IRISH PROMINENT IN THE COLONIES.

It is especially remarkable, what scant mention is made even of the more prominent, and distinguished members of the race in the Colonies, notwithstanding the fact that many of the early Irish settlers occupied the highest and most important offices in State and National affairs.

Thomas Dongan, from Co. Kildare, was Governor of the Province of New York as early as 1683. William Johnson, from Co. Meath, was Governor of the Indians from the Hudson to the Mississippi River; James Moore, a grandson of the famous Rory O'Moore, of the County Kildare, founder of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, was Governor of Carolina in 1700. John Hart, from County Cavan was Governor of the Province of Maryland in 1714; George Clinton, whose father came from County Longford, was Governor of the State of New York in 1729, and later Vice-President under Jefferson, and again under Madison. His brother, James, was father of De Witt Clinton, Governor of New York, who built the Erie Canal. Arthur Dobbs, Governor of North Carolina in 1756, and Mathew Rowan, Governor in 1764, were both natives of Carrickfergus, County Antrim. John Rutledge, Governor of South Carolina in 1776, and Thomas Burke, Governor in 1781, also Edward Rutledge, Governor in 1788, were all natives of Ireland. John McKinley, a native of Ireland, was Governor of Delaware in 1776. George Bryan from Dublin, was Governor of the State of Pennsylvania in 1788, James Duane, son of an Irishman, was the first Mayor of the City of New York after the Revolution. Many of the earliest judges in our present States were Irishmen or their sons, and

many of the race excelled in medicine, science and literature, and as pioneers in every walk of life, they assisted largely in laying the foundations for the future development of the United States.

Nine of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were native born Irishmen or of



SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF  
INDEPENDENCE

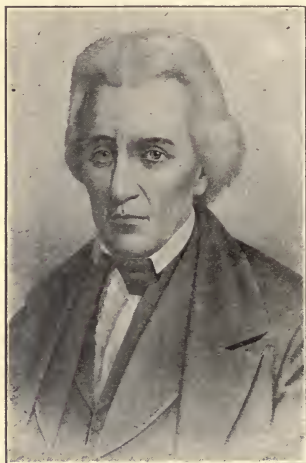
Irish descent. Those born in Ireland were Mathew Thornton, James Smith, George Taylor, and Edward Rutledge. Those of Irish descent were Charles Carroll, George Reid, Thomas McKean and Thomas Lynch. O'Hart in his "Irish Pedigrees," states that Robert Treat Paine, also one of the signers, was a descendant

of the O'Neils of Ulster. Twenty-three members of the first American Congress were native-born Irishmen or of Irish descent. Pierce Long, Mathew Thornton, and Thomas Fitzsimmons were natives of Limerick. The father of John Sullivan was also a native of the same city. James Duane was the son of Anthony Duane from Galway, Edward Hand was a native of Kings County, William Irvine was from Fermanagh. The parents of Charles and Daniel Carroll were from Tipperary and King's Counties. Edward Carrington was of a Mayo family, Thomas Burke was from Galway, John Armstrong from Donegal, James McHenry from Antrim. Pierce Butler from Kilkenny, Cornelius Harnett from Dublin, Thomas Lynch from Galway, John and Edward Rutledge from Leitrim, and Kean, Read, Heney, and Kearney were of Irish descent. Seven amongst the framers of the Constitution were also Irish or of Irish descent. Thomas Fitzsimmons, James McHenry, John Rutledge and Pierce Butler were native born Irishmen, and George Read and Charles and Daniel Carroll were of Irish descent. Twenty-six Generals and Commanders of brigades and regiments, besides over fifteen hundred other officers of various ranks in the Revolutionary Army, were native-born Irish or of Irish descent. Among the Irish-born officers may be mentioned: Generals James



Hogan, John Greateon, Richard Butler, Richard Montgomery, William Irvine, Edward Hand, William Thompson, William Maxwell, Andrew Lewis. And Colonels: Robert Magaw, John Kelly, John Dooley, John Patton, Walter Stewart, John Shee, John Haslet, Thomas Proctor, John Fitzgerald, Hercules Mooney, Pierce Long, Stephen Moylan, John Nixon Francis, John Barber, Ephraim Blaine, Charles Stewart, Major John Caldwell, Captain John Dunlap; and of Irish descent: Generals James Moore, James and George Clinton, Joseph Reed, John Sullivan, Henry Knox, Anthony Wayne and others. The fathers and grandfathers of Knox and Wayne were native-born Irishmen. Nixon was the son of a Wexford Irishman, and the Barbers were sons of Patrick Barber of County Longford, Ireland. All with the exception of the Barbers, were members of the Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Philadelphia, of which Washington himself became a member, and General Anthony Wayne, was one of its most active members. According to the published records of the Societies, they were also members of the Hibernian Society of Philadelphia. In the American Navy may be mentioned the names not only of Commodore Jack Barry from Wexford, "Father of the American Navy," but also a host of others too numerous to even briefly specify here. As al-

ready stated in the previous article on Ireland's part in American Independence before England destroyed her trade, Ireland had a large merchant marine of her own, and a continuous commerce existed between that country and the American Colonies even as early as the mid-



PATRICK HENRY

- dle of the Seventeenth Century. Ample evidence of this is found in the numerous advertisements in the Colonial newspapers of that time, of Irish-manufactured goods and an-

nouncements of the arrival and departure of Irish and American Ships, to and from Irish and American ports. Many Colonial Irishmen were not only large ship-builders, but also extensive and wealthy merchants, and ship-owners, and Irish Captains and sailors served on privateer vessels plying out of every port on the Atlantic Coast. They were experienced and daring seamen, always ready for action, however hazardous, whether engaged in peaceful commerce, or raiding enemy shipping in times of war. When the Revolution broke out these Irishmen immediately enlisted themselves and their ships in the American cause, and the records report an apparently endless list of British ships brought into American ports, laden with rich stores of food, clothing, arms and ammunition captured by these daring and adventurous privateersmen. A specimen of these heroic and patriotic Irishmen is exemplified in Captain Nathaniel Tracy, son of Captain Patrick Tracy, of County Wexford. According to his "Memorial to Congress" in 1806, and published in the Newburyport, Massachusetts Herald, Dec. 12, 1826, the "Game Cock," the first American privateer of the Revolution, was owned and fitted out by Captain Tracey in August, 1775. He was the principal owner of 110 vessels aggregating 15,660 tons which, together with their cargoes were valued at \$2,733,300.

Twenty of these were Letters of Marque mounted with 298 guns, and a crew of 1,618 men. During the Revolution these cruisers and Letters of Marque, captured from the English 120 vessels; aggregating 23,360 tons, which, together with their cargoes, were sold for \$3,950,000. With these prizes were also captured 2,225 prisoners of war.

Coffin, in his History of Newburyport, Massachusetts, tells us, that, from the proceeds of these prizes "large sums of money were given to the Government to aid in the prosecution of the war, and many a regiment of American troops, destitute of clothing, were clad with the cloth given to the Government by Nathaniel Tracy." So generous and open-handed was his money given to aid Washington's Army, that his business partners protested on account of the low credit of the Government. But he assumed all responsibility, and gave them his personal notes for their share of government loans. He, together with other wealthy merchants of Newburyport, built and recruited to the Government, the frigate "Merrimac", the first ship of the American Navy, built by private capital, and loaned to the government." Coffin, in his history, states, "he had several country seats, large farms with all the appliances of taste and luxury that a man of rank and title might think necessary to his happi-

ness; his horses were of the choicest kind and his coaches of the most splendid make, and he is said to have owned real estate in nearly every City on the line of travel between Newburyport and Philadelphia." He entertained distinguished guests from Europe in his elegant mansion on State Street, Boston, and here he royally entertained Washington during his Eastern tour in 1789. So formidable an adversary was Captain Tracy during the Revolutionary war, that the British, concentrating their forces sent several heavy-gun vessels to sweep him from the Atlantic. At the termination of the war, out of the many ships of which he was principal owner, only fourteen escaped. The remainder were captured or destroyed in battle in his heroic fight for American Liberty. The government failing to meet its obligations to him, he was compelled to sell at a sacrifice his remaining estates and ships, and retire to his country seat in Newburg, where he died in 1806. Another of these brave Revolutionary heroes, was Captain Hugh Hill of Carrickfergus, Ireland. His father was John Hill, and his mother Elizabeth Jackson, daughter of Hugh Jackson, the grandfather of our famous President Andrew Jackson. During the Revolution, Captain Hill had a most romantic career, and was perhaps the most widely known of all American Sea-men on the

Atlantic Ocean. In 1775, he was commander of the privateer "Pilgrim," of 20 guns, and in the same year, captured, and brought into Beverly, Massachusetts, the British Ship "Industry" which he delivered to the command of Washington.

Edwin M. Stone, in his History of Beverly, Mass. pp. 71-72 states, "Captain Hill's principal theatre of action was the coast of Ireland, where he captured many vessels, to the great annoyance of British commerce and the humiliation of that flag which arrogantly claimed the dominion of the sea. It was thus he earned among the English men-of-war stationed in the Channel the 'Soubriquet' of 'that notorious Hugh Hill' and made himself, as it was his ambition to be, the scourge of the British Coast. He was a brave and generous officer and distinguished for his humanity to his prisoners. On one cruise, while sailing with the English ensign at the mast-head as a decoy, he was boarded by the Captain of a British vessel of war, who, not suspecting the character of his entertainers, remarked that he was "in search of that notorious Hugh Hill." Unprepared for the moment for an engagement with so formidable a foe, Captain Hill replied that he was on the lookout for the same individual and hoped soon to meet him. In the course of a few days, Captain Hill again encountered his

visitor. The American flag was immediately run up and an engagement ensued which resulted in the capture of his British Antagonist, who, with his vessel, was sent into Beverly."

Of the three hundred and seven distinctively Irish names recorded in the New York Evening Post, New York Gazette, and Weekly Post Boy, The Weekly Mercury, The Pennsylvania Gazette The New York Royal Gazette, The New York Packet, and other newspapers of the times, volumes could be written, showing not only their position and influence in American affairs and development but especially the powerful and heroic part they played in the establishment of American Independence. Mac-lay says, "In both wars with England, our Privateers were a most important if not predominant feature in our early sea power." Amongst these names the Rileys originating from County Longford, Ireland, is perhaps the most numerous. Dr. Henry R. Stiles in his History of Ancient Wethersfield, states: "Probably there have been more sea captains of this surname in Wethersfield, Rocky Hill, and Middletown, all descendants of John the Wethersfield settler, than of any other surname." Several of them traded with the West Indies, and during the wars of Independence, they encountered many adventures in successfully preying on British commerce, Captain John

Riley was Commander of the Ship, "Hero," in 1778. In 1776 the privateer, "Ranger," was commanded by Captain Ashbel Riley; and in 1778 he was Commander of a ship named "Snake." The "Hartford Courant" relates the following of this Captain Riley: "During the Revolutionary war Captain Riley brought the Ranger into the harbor of Charleston, S. C., where he and his men were seized by the crews of two British warships and put in irons on board the Nancy. A prize crew was put on board the Ranger and the vessel ordered to proceed to New Providence. Only a few days after his capture he and his men seized the arms, recaptured the British convoy and brought her into Charleston to the great astonishment and joy of the people."

Rev. Samuel Williams in his sketches of the late war, published at Rutland, Vermont in 1815, writing about another Irishman, Captain William Levins, a native of Drogheda, Ireland, and Captain of his own vessel named the "Santee" states: "The Schooner Santee, Captain Levins, on her way to Amelia Island with cotton, was captured by the boats of the British frigate Lacedemonian on the 8th of August, 1814, and ordered to Bermuda. On the 10th at ten o'clock at night, while under way, Captain Levins conceived the bold idea of recapturing his vessel alone. He accordingly took the pre-



caution to put out of the way the axe and whatever else that could be made use of against him. He then armed himself with a brace of pistols and sword which were concealed on board and commenced the daring enterprise by wounding two of the crew, one severely in the leg when the other three surrendered to that valor, which they dare not withstand. Having secured his



PAUL REVERE

prisoners, Captain Levins put about his vessel and stood for Charleston, which, with the assistance of his prisoners whom he obliged to assist him one at a time, he reached on the 12th of August, amid the cheerings and acclamations of the citizens." The O'Briens were another noted Irish family of ship-builders and

masters, at Warren, Maine. Edward O'Brien built 39 ships on his own docks at Warren, of which he was principal owner. "Richard O'Brien, when only twenty-one years old, was Commander of a privateer in the Naval service of the Revolution. Egle, in the Third Series, Vol. III, "Historical Notes and Queries," states the following: "William O'Brien born in Mallow, County Cork, in 1728, came to America in 1757, married Rebecca Crane at Roasie in the Kenebec district, Maine. His son, Richard, was born there in 1758. William died in 1762, and was taken to Ireland and buried at Mallow. Richard was an active and experienced seaman, an intrepid and successful adventurer in the privateering exploits of the American Revolution, and a brave commander in the regular naval service of his country. In 1785, he was captured by the Turks, and for a long time held in servitude by the Bey of Algiers. For seven years he carried the chain and ball and then the Bey relieved him of this evidence of bondage, as an expression of gratitude for an act of kindness rendered in an emergency to the Governor's daughter. He communicated with Jefferson on his relief, with the result that he was appointed by Washington Consul-General to Barbary in 1797. This position he held for eight years and the merit of his public services was officially acknowledged by three succes-

sive Presidents. He was the first Consul of the United States to Barbary, and the first person there to raise the American flag. In 1805, he returned to Philadelphia, but continued his seafaring life. In 1810, he settled at Carlisle, Pa., and was a member of the Legislature from that district. He died at Washington in 1824, and was buried in the Congressional Cemetery."

Another famous O'Brien family lived at Machias, Maine, and their daring exploits ought to be an inspiration to every American youth. Dr. Andrew M. Sherman in his "Life of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien" states, "None were more earnestly and fearlessly outspoken in protestation against the increasing tyranny of the British Government than Morris O'Brien and his six sturdy sons. Into the minds of his six boys Morris O'Brien had assiduously instilled his long-cherished hatred of the government from whose oppressions he had fled many years since; hence the entire family were aroused to the highest pitch of patriotic indignation when the news from Lexington and Concord reached Machias." Jeremiah O'Brien and his five brothers fought and won the first naval battle of the American Revolution, and as John Sullivan of New Hampshire and his brave companions carried off the supplies and were the first to haul down the British flag on land at Fort William and Mary,

so the O'Brien's were the first to haul it down on sea from a regular warcraft of the Royal Navy in the battle of Machias Bay. Dr. Sherman further states "As a reward for the prominent part borne by Jeremiah O'Brien in the captures made in Machias Bay, he was made a Captain of the marine by the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts and was assigned to the



TRANSPORTING MUNITIONS FROM CONCORD

command of the Machias, Liberty, and the Diligent, and instructed to cruise along the coast in defense of American Liberty." The two brothers of Jeremiah, William and John were Lieutenants on the Machias Liberty and Diligent. Jeremiah was Commander-in-Chief of the two cruisers which are designated "The first flying squadron of the Revolution." Dr.

Sherman concludes thus "We shall look in vain to discover a parallel to the record of this family in the annals of the Revolution, seven male members of which, were actively and honorably engaged in that sanguinary conflict, of whom six, were actual participants in one of the most brilliant achievements on land or sea." In the heroic part they played in establishing the independence of their adopted country, these Irish mariners have, in the Western hemisphere, again gloriously upheld the immortal standard of bravery won by their race upon the battle-fields of Europe. The names and deeds of these men, as well as of nearly all others of their race were carefully omitted in our American histories. Thus they are hidden away from public view and knowledge and thereby unfairly and unjustly defrauded of the credit and esteem they so richly deserve from the American people. Nor are our American historians wholly to blame. The Irish people of past generations, through indifference or otherwise have heedlessly allowed the deeds of those men of their race to perish, or remain in obscurity and oblivion. Many other equally interesting events might be cited did space permit. For further information on this highly interesting subject, the reader is referred to Michael J. O'Brien's scholarly work—"A Hidden Phase of American History."

## CHAPTER II.

### EARLY IRISH SCHOOLMASTERS IN THE COLONIES

In early Colonial days, most of the youth were educated by schoolmasters driven from Ireland by English Penal Laws, which had put a price on their heads as on that of a wolf. Many of the great men in Revolutionary times were not only taught by these men, but they imbibed from them that love of liberty and hatred of oppression which ultimately culminated in the Revolution. It is an historical fact that Ireland, even in her gloomiest periods always fostered and respected learning. The Schoolmaster and the Clergyman in some respects were held in equal esteem. Many of these men were profound scholars and taught not only the rudiments of education but also the "Classics," the higher branches of mathematics and science. Perhaps the most notable among the early educators in the Colonies was John Sullivan the "Limerick Schoolmaster" who taught the children of the New England Puritans for upwards of sixty years. The records state that when he applied to Dr. Moody of Maine for employment as teacher in 1723, to show he was competent to teach he wrote his application

in seven languages. John C. Lineham (Journal of American Irish Historical Society) describes him as the "father of a Governor of New Hampshire, of a Governor of Massachusetts, of the first Judge appointed in New Hampshire, of an Attorney-General of New Hampshire, of a Major-General in the Revolutionary Army, and of four other sons who were officers in that army. He was the grandfather of a Governor of Maine, and of a United States Senator of New Hampshire, and an Attorney-General of the State; the great-grandfather of an Attorney-General of New Hampshire and a Judge of its courts; and the great-great-grandfather of a distinguished American Officer of the Civil War." In the early records of the City Hall, Worcester, Massachusetts, we find that Rev. Edward Fitzgerald was the first schoolmaster in Worcester, Mass. He taught school there as early as 1720. Among those who came with him from Ireland to Worcester, was James McClellan the great,great,great-grandfather of General George B. McClellan, the famous General of the Civil War. In the Public Archives of Delaware are found these names recorded as follows: James Murphy, Age 21—Born in Ireland—Occupation—Schoolmaster; Richard Little, Age 26—Born in Ireland—Occupation—Schoolmaster; John Bryan, Age 20—Born in Ireland—Occupation—School-

master; Arthur Simpson—Born in Ireland—Occupation—Schoolmaster. Butler County was named after Major-General Richard Butler, a native of Dublin, Ireland. He was Commander of a brigade of Pennsylvania troops in the Revolutionary War, and his four brothers were officers in the same war. McKee, in his "History of Butler County" describing the inhabitants, says: "Some, among the early teachers, especially the Scotch and the Irish, were better educated, and, as a rule, all did their work well, as is sufficiently attested by the great statesmen, writers, and orators of the middle of the eighteenth century. Many, or most of them were graduates of the pioneer school-house." One of the earliest schoolmasters in Adam's Township, Penn., was the Irishman James Irvin. Here he taught for several years. He was the father of a whole family of teachers. His sons, Mathew and Samuel, both school teachers, fought in the war of 1812. Archibald Kelly, another Irishman taught school in Parker Township. Of him, McKee writes, "He was a noted educator, his training both in Ireland and in Westmoreland and other counties having fitted him for more exacting duties than he found in Parker Township." Again referring to him as teacher in Washington Township, McKee says—"He was the first teacher in Washington Township, and attracted pupils



from the surrounding country. Judge Bredin, and other prominent citizens received their early training under the rigid discipline of Master Kelly." McKee, also states, "John Kennedy an Irishman, a well known Schoolmaster, taught school at Hannahstown. His scholarship was far above the attainments of most of the early teachers. He was a fine penman, was a very mild-mannered teacher for those days, and was very popular." James Sweeney was also one of the early teachers of Hannahstown. Referring to Venango Township, McKee states—"The first schoolmaster was Robert Cunningham. He was an Irishman, as were the early teachers generally, a fine scholar and very strict in discipline." Hugh and John Murrin were also teachers in Venango. Amongst the schoolmasters of that section of Pennsylvania are mentioned: Charles Sullivan, John Walsh, W. McCorkle, and James McGarry. In Buffalo Township the early schoolmasters were John Cunningham, Robert Hamilton, and Michael Jones. Writing of Penn Township McKee states: "The early school teachers were Irishmen and usually fond of showing their authority. Few are remembered who are noted for mildness, and none can be charged with sparing the rod unduly. Perhaps the first school in Penn Township was a small log building on the Jacob Hartzell farm. Here,

Master Skerrett taught school, and a little later John Boyle, a terror to evil-doers and little boys." Again, he writes: "In Centre Township, the first teacher was William Wallace. The building was constructed of logs and was as comfortable as most dwellings, rather a pretentious school for the time. Wallace came from Ireland and settled on a tract of land with his brother Benjamin in Franklin County. In Mercer Township, John Welsh was one of the pioneer schoolmasters. He was an excellent teacher, thorough and systematic in his methods." In Harrisville appear the names of James Hardy, Master O'Hara, and David C. Cunningham. In Jackson Township, appear the names of Mary Martin, William McKenny, and John Fleming "who possessed a good deal of the schoolmaster's tact and managed his pupils well." Patrick Garvin, a native of Ireland, was a schoolmaster at Concord, N. H., in 1746. John O'Brien, from Cork, was the schoolmaster at Warren, Me., in 1782. Edward O'Connor was the first schoolmaster of Onondago County, N. Y. Hercules Mooney, born in Longford, Ireland, was schoolmaster in New Hampshire for forty years. During the Revolution he was Colonel of the First New Hampshire Regiment. William Killen came from Ireland in 1737. For several years he taught school in Delaware and Pennsylvania, and was

afterwards the first Chancellor and Chief Justice of Delaware. John Dickinson, of Delaware known as "the Penman of the Revolution" was one of his pupils. Dr. Francis Allison, an Irishman, was master of an academy at New London, Penn., and among his pupils were James Smith, George Read, and Thomas McKean, who in later years were among the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The elegant and classic style which distinguishes our early writers and orators, was the result of the efficient training of these Irish schoolmasters. When the Revolution broke out many of these teachers put aside their books, and buckling on the sword, went out to fight for American Liberty.

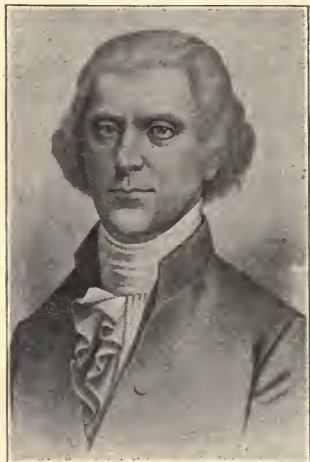
Nor was it in the school-room or on the battlefield alone, that the Colonial Irish distinguished themselves. As merchants and land owners with their influence and money, they upheld the arms of Washington all through the war. During its darkest period, when credit was at its lowest, and the Treasury almost depleted, when there were no means to feed, clothe or pay the army, and defeat was almost impending, twenty-three Irish Americans came to the rescue, and, with Robert Morris—Treasurer of Congress, and others, subscribed large sums of money; established the Bank of North America in Philadelphia, and

averted the financial panic. Thomas Duffy of Boston bought the blankets and supplies for the Massachusetts troops during the first three years of the Revolution. Hercules Mulligan, "Confidential Correspondent to the Commander-in-Chief," was a powerful advocate of American liberty. It was he, who converted Alexander Hamilton—Secretary of the Treasury from his anti-republican doctrines, and had him join the "Sons of Liberty." On one occasion he saved Washington from capture and possible assassination. The Irishman, Charles Thomson—Secretary of the Continental Congress, was an ardent patriot and close friend of Franklin. George Bryan, from Dublin, was an uncompromising champion of American liberty long before the Revolution. The inscription on his tombstone in Philadelphia reads: "He was among the earliest and most active and uniform friends of the rights of man before the Revolutionary War. As a member of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, and of the Congress of New York in 1765, and as a citizen, he was conspicuous in opposition to the Stamp Act and other acts of British tyranny in America." Mathew Lyon from Wicklow, Ireland, called "the Hampden of Congress," William and Charles Thomson, John and Edward Rutledge, Thaddeus McCarty, Captain Daniel Malcom, James Duane, William O'Bryan

“the Rebel Treasurer of Georgia,” Cornelius Harnett, all Irish-born or of Irish descent, were powerful advocates and champions of American liberty. On Malcom’s tombstone in Copp’s Hill Cemetery, Boston, the following is inscribed: “He was a true son of Liberty, a Friend to the Public, an Enemy to Oppression, and one of the forenriost in opposing the Revenue Acts of America.” Daniel O’Neil was the First Postmaster-General in America in 1693. William Leary was Town Mayor of New York, in 1775-76. Colonel John Fitzgerald, a descendant of the Geraldines of Leinster, Ireland, was Aide-de-Camp and Secretary to Washington. James Hoban, an Irishman, was the Architect of the White House, planned after the Duke of Leinster’s Castle, the ancestral estate of the Geraldines in Kildare, Ireland.

What figure is more outstanding in Colonial life and Revolutionary activities, than Charles Carroll of Carrollton—“The first Citizen”? His Grandfather, who emigrated from King’s County, Ireland to Maryland, in 1688, was owner of three Manors, Comprising sixty thousand acres. He was eminently fitted by birth, education and position to take a prominent part in Colonial affairs. Having made his studies in England and France, and associated there with the leaders of public opinion, he was well versed in the political conditions

of the times. He was a firm believer in the principle of "No taxation without representation", and a strong supporter of the advanced views of John and Samuel Adams. He was one of the Signers of the Declaration and, to-



THOMAS JEFFERSON

gether with Benjamin Franklin and Samuel Chase appointed by Congress to proceed to Canada to enlist the sympathy of its people, or at least ensure their neutrality. Of this Committee John Adams states: "The charac-

ter of the first two you know. The last is not a member of Congress, but a gentleman of independent-fortune-educated in some university of France, of great ability and learning, complete master of the French language and a professor of the Roman Catholic religion; yet a warm, a firm, a zealous supporter of the rights of America; in whose cause he hazarded his all." He was a member of the Continental Congress later on, and through his acquaintance with the French diplomats was a principal factor with Washington and Franklin in bringing about the Alliance between America and France in 1778. His great wealth was generously given towards the equipment of the Revolutionary Army, and, together with Robert Morris, was one of the principal contributors in the establishment of the Bank of North America. Throughout all his life he was a most devoted Catholic. His last recorded words are: "I have lived to my ninety-sixth year; I have enjoyed continued health, I have been blessed with great wealth, prosperity and most of the good things which the world can bestow, public approbation, esteem, applause; but what I now look back on with the greatest satisfaction to myself is that I have practiced the duties of my religion." His death. Nov. 14, 1832, brought sorrow to his State and nation. On that occasion Pres-

dent Jackson issued the following touching address to Congress and the Senate: "The last survivor of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, he, who, for many years, was the last precious relic of the band of July 4, 1776, is no more. The death of Charles Carroll of Carrollton is announced to us. The triumph of the grave over this living monument of our nations birthday, around which the gratitude of a nation loved to gather, will be the signal for a nation's mourning."



## CHAPTER III

### LARGE PERCENTAGE OF IRISH IN THE COLONIES

From the records still preserved in the offices of the Secretaries of the States, land commissioners, and other public records of the various States as well as those already mentioned, it is proven beyond contradiction, that among the inhabitants of each of the original thirteen colonies in the 17th and 18th centuries, the percentage of Irish was very large. In these old records are to be found the distinctively Irish names of tens of thousands, who emigrated to the Colonies from all parts of Ireland. In the newspapers of these times, published in the sea-port towns and cities along the Atlantic Coast, are recorded an almost continuous list of the arrival of ships with emigrants from the various Irish ports. The cause of this exodus from Ireland is easily found in the political and economic oppression of the people, religious persecution, landlord tyranny, and the destruction of trade and industry by the British Government, thereby depriving a large percentage of the inhabitants of employment in their own country, and on

the other hand, the favorable conditions and opportunities to be found in a new and extensive country. Abundant employment, good wages, cheap lands, business and commercial advantages, together with the innate Irish love of adventure. In the combined forces of all these circumstances, are to be found the contributing causes of this immense immigration to the American Colonies from Ireland in early times, as well as later. Another contributing factor in the great influx from Ireland is found in the large colonies established by George Calvert (named Lord Baltimore from Baltimore, Cork, in Ireland). Charles Carroll I. William Penn, James Oglethorpe and others. By Royal Favor or in lieu of payment immense sections of land were given to these men. To Lord Baltimore was given the State of Maryland, and to William Penn, the state of Pennsylvania. Entire freedom of worship for all was established in these two states by Lord Baltimore, the Catholic, in Maryland and William Penn, the Quaker, in Pennsylvania. To the oppressed Catholics of Ireland especially these states afforded a place of refuge, and here they came in thousands. William Penn, who had lived many years at Kinsdale, Ireland, brought out with him in 1682, a large colony of Irish peasants from Cork and Wexford; and seventeen years later another colony on

his return voyage to Philadelphia, among whom were many School teachers as well as James Logan, who, afterwards, became Chief Justice of the Courts, Provincial Secretary, and President of the Council. So constant was the arrival of Irish, especially Catholics at the port of Philadelphia, that a strong protest was made by the Lieutenant Governor. In the Fisher Collection of the American Philosophical Society, the following appears: "A message from the Lieutenant Governor to the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania, December 17, 1728." "I have now positive orders from Britain to provide proper law against the crowds of foreigners who are yearly poured upon us. It may also require thoughts to prevent, the importation of Irish Papists, of whom, some of the most notorious, I am creditably informed, have of late been landed in this river." On December 28, the "Representatives" replied to this letter saying: "We do likewise perceive it to be of the greatest consequence to the perservation both of the religious and civil rights of the people of this Province, to prevent the importation of Irish Papists, in which no endeavour of ours shall be wanting, and we earnestly request the Governor to recommend the same to the consideration of the Assembly of the Three Lower Counties to make like provision against the

growth of so pernicious an evil in that Government, which if not timely prevented, will sensibly affect the people of this Province." The largest number of Irish immigrants came to Pennsylvania in the beginning of the eighteenth century.

They settled mostly near Philadelphia, and also in Bucks, Chester and Lancaster counties; and large numbers settled in Cumberland Valley upon lands purchased from the Indians. They were mostly of the farming class in Ireland, and, here, they occupied large tracts of agricultural lands. Dr. Alfred Nevin, writing about these Irish settlers says: "No district of our broad, beautiful, and blessed country, has furnished more representative men, men distinguished for their ability, intelligence, and influence, than Cumberland Valley." Rupp, the historian, writing of the Irish in Lancaster County says: "They and their descendants have always been justly regarded as amongst the most intelligent people of the country, and their progress will be found but little behind the boasted efforts of the Colony of Plymouth." Dr. Robert Baird states: that from 1729 to 1750, about twelve thousand annually came from Ulster to America, besides many thousands more from the other Provinces of Ireland, which would make a total in twenty-one years of more than 300,000. Writing of these

living in Dauphin and Cumberland Counties, Rupp again states: "The greater proportion of them are Catholics and have priests officiating in the Irish language. Previous to the Revolution of 1776, the immigration of the Irish was not only extensive but of the better sort." He calls them: "A generous and hospitable people" and quotes the Lord's Prayer from the Gaelic Bible in the possession of an Irish Catholic family, and says "the descendants of the Irish no longer speak the language of the valorous fathers." For further proof, showing the great influx of Irish Catholic immigrants into Pennsylvania long before the Revolution, we quote the following: Rev. Howard Gans, writing in 1847, states: "Evidence is at hand that before 1745, a number of Irish Catholic families settled in Tuscarora Path, and formed the nucleus of a settlement still in existence, and in which we not only find lineal descendants of the original settlers, but a community in which, in spite of the vicissitudes of time, the frequent depredations of the Indians, the great distance from a church and the sadly few visits of priests, the Catholic faith is still found as firm and intact as was that of their ancestors, who planted it there, more than one hundred and fifty years ago. This settlement was not only the one that lay further west than any hitherto attempted on

this side of the Alleghanies, but even antedates Conewago, as far as documentary evidence goes." The Pennsylvania Gazette of July 15, 1755, reporting news from England states: "It is a fact most undoubtedly true that great numbers of Irish and German Papists have, of late years gone into our colonies." Berthold Fernow in his "Critical and Narrative history of the Middle Colonies" (Vol. 1 p. 160) states: "Before the Revolution, Pennsylvania harbored five Catholic churches with about double the number of priests and several thousand communicants, mostly Irish and Germans." In his "Observations in North America," Achenwall states: "Catholic churches are found in Pennsylvania as well as in Maryland. Roman Catholics are excluded from all offices and from the assembly because they cannot take the usual religious oath and subscribe under the Test Act."

In those early days, many of the Irish settlers became traders among the Indians. The Pennsylvania official records contain the names of several Irish traders, who seem to have been much respected among them. Not only did they, in conjunction with the French Missionaries, instruct them in the Catholic faith, but they also sowed among them the seeds of American patriotism, with the result, that when the Revolution began, the Catholic Penob-

scot, the Abenakis and other tribes joined the Colonial Militia Companies, and bravely fought with their white comrades for American liberty. Rupp, in his "History of Western Pennsylvania" states that in 1758 Christian Post was sent by the Governor of Pennsylvania with a message to the Indians telling them: "There are a great many Papists in the country, who have sent many runaway Irish servants among you, who have put bad notions into your heads and strengthened you against your brothers, the English." He warns them, stating: "There are a great number of Irish traders now among the Indians, who have always endeavoured to split up the Indians, against the English. (Journal of Christian Post.)

Sir William Johnson, in his manuscript also states: "There are a great number of the Irish Papists amongst the Delaware and Susquehanna Indians, who have done a world of prejudice to English interests."

The following incident contained in the Massachusetts Archives (Vol. 30, p. 464) shows not only the mode of living, but also the loyalty and bravery of the early Indians. In June, 1701, a delegation of Puritans from Boston, among whom were Governor William Stoughton, and Commissioners Philips, Nelson, Byfield, and Townsend, visited the Penobscot and

Abenakis Indians, with the object of winning them over from their Catholic faith, and from the French to the English side, in the France-English war. A Conference was held with the Indians under a tent spread in the woods on Casco Bay, Maine. The Puritans presented their case before the Indian Chiefs, who listened with respectful attention. The reply of the Indians was as follows: "It much surpriseth us that you should propose anything to us, for we did not think anything of that nature would have been mentioned, furthermore, nothing of that nature was mentioned when peace was concluded between all nations, furthermore the English formerly neglected to instruct us in religion which, if they had then offered to us we should have embraced it but now being instructed by the French, we have promised to be true to God in our Religion, and it is this we profess to stand by." An Indian Catholic Chief arose, and addressing the leader of the Puritans, said: "Great Captain, you say to us not to join ourselves to the French, supposing that you are going to declare war against him. Let it be known to you that the French is my brother; he and I have the same prayer and we both live in the same wigwam at two fires, he has one fire and I the other. If I see you enter the wigwam on the side of the fire where the French, my brother, is seated, I shall observe



you from my mat where I am seated, at the other fire. In observing you, if I see that you have a tomahawk. I will think to myself: What does the English intend to do with that tomahawk? I will rise from my mat to see what he intends to do. If he raise the tomahawk to strike the French, my brother, I shall take my tomahawk and I will run to the English, and strike him. Can I see my brother stricken in my own wigwam and I remain quiet, seated upon my mat? No! No! I love my brother too much, that I should not protect him. I tell you Great Captain, I will do nothing against my brother, and I will do nothing against you; stay quiet upon your mat, and I will stay quiet upon mine." It is needless to say the Puritans entirely failed in their efforts to pervert these Indians, either from their Catholic faith or their loyalty to the French, from whose priests they had received instruction.

From the foregoing statements, and many others equally reliable, which want of space excludes here, it may be clearly seen how utterly ridiculous are the statements made by some historians, who, if they admit the presence of any Irish at all, in the Colonies previous to the Revolution, refer to them as "Scotch-Irish Presbyterians from Ulster." Anything in fact, for the purpose of unjustly depriving

the Irish, and particularly the Catholic Irish, of a place in American history, they so richly deserve. The Presbyterians from Ulster came to the Colonies from Ireland, for the same reasons which forced the Catholics to emigrate namely, British political and religious persecution. In Ireland, they were subjected to persecution, simply because they refused to take the "Test Oath" of Allegiance, to apply to Episcopal bishops for license to teach in schools, or receive the Sacrament after the fashion of the Church of England. This together with the tyrannical restrictions on trade, imposed by the English, and servile Irish Parliaments, drove many thousand of them to America. They came over in the same ships, from the same country, and for the same reasons, as did the Catholics. They came to the Colonies, with the same love of liberty, and bitter hatred of British tyranny as did the Irish Catholics, and together, both Catholic and Presbyterian, fought side by side for American liberty all through the Revolution. Side by side they fought against the British oppression here, as their brothers fought together in Ireland, against the same oppression in 1798. In that glorious fight for Irish liberty, the "Ulster Presbyterians"—Rev. William Steele Nixon, Henry Joy, McCracken, General Henry Munro, and Dr. Jackson fought and died animated with

the same ardent love for Irish liberty, as did the Catholic priests;—Fathers John and Michael Murphy, Philip Roach, William Clinch, and Moses Kearns. These “Ulster Presbyterians” in 1829, responded cordially to the call of Daniel O’Connell and gave their full sympathy and support to the movement for Catholic emancipation. Many of the leaders in every period of the long battle for Irish freedom were Non-Catholics and fought and died for Ireland, with the same intense love for the land of their birth as did their Catholic brethren. Difference in religious belief, made no difference in their nationality. The Irish, who came to the Colonies, whether from Protestant Ulster or Catholic Munster, Connaught or Leinster, were all Irish and nothing else. Difference of religious belief does not divide a people’s nationality. The Pagan may worship at his nation’s shrine with as much devotion as the Christian. Why should difference in religion among the Irish people be used as a pretext in their nationality any more than in that of the Germans, French, or Poles?

## MARYLAND

In 1634, Lord Baltimore established his Colony north of the Potomac, which he named Maryland, in honor of the Catholic Queen, Henrietta Maria. This Colony was established forty-nine years before William Penn established his Colony in Pennsylvania. The Charter of Maryland, drawn up by Lord Baltimore himself, guarantecing full liberty of worship to all Christians, and a voice to all men in making its law, is the noblest document in our early history. Here religious and political freedom obtained its first home in the Western World. These early colonists were the founders of Civil and religious liberty in America. In March, 1634, the first settlers arrived at the Island of St. Clements, in two ships, the Ark and the Dove. They were Irish and English emigrants and with them were two Jesuit priests — Fathers Andrew White and John Altham. They were, says McSherry: "Nearly all Catholics, and gentlemen of fortune and respectability, who desired to fly from the spirit of intolerance which pervaded England, and to rear up their altars in freedom in the wilderness." Their landing at St. Clements is thus described by Father White: "On the day of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the

25th of March, in the year 1635," we offered on this island, for the first time the Sacrifice of the Mass, in this region of the world it had never been celebrated before. The sacrifice being ended, having taken upon our shoulders the great cross, which we had hewn from a tree, and going in the procession to the place that had been designated, the Governor, Commissioners, and other Catholics participating in the ceremony, we erected it as a trophy to Christ the Saviour, while the Litany of the Cross was chanted humbly on our bended knees with great emotion of soul." On reaching the mainland, the governor purchased from the Indians a large tract of country thirty miles in length, now comprising St. Mary's county. After taking solemn possession of the place, March 27th, 1634, the City of St Mary was founded. Speaking of these early Catholic settlers of Maryland, Davis the Protestant historian says, "Let not the protestant historian of America give grudgingly. Let him testify with a warm heart, and pay with gladness, the tribute so richly due to the memory of our early (Catholic) forefathers. Let their deeds be enshrined in our hearts and their names repeated in our households. Let them be canonized in the grateful regards of the Americans; and handed down, through the lips of living tradition to his most remote poster-

ity. In an age of credulity, like true men, with heroic hearts, they fought the great battle of religious liberty, and their fame, without reference to their faith, is now the inheritance, not only of Maryland, but also of America." Many of the Indians became converted to the faith, and the spirit of love and harmony existed between them and the colonists. McSherry states: "Maryland was almost the only state whose early settlement was not stained with the blood of natives." The Catholic religion was faithfully practised in the wigwams of the Indians as well as in the town of St. Mary's and peace, prosperity, and happiness reigned everywhere in the "land of the sanctuary."

Freedom all solace to man gives  
He lives at ease, that freely lives.

The fame of Maryland soon spread abroad, and towards it the persecuted of every clime bent their footsteps. "The Roman Catholics," says Bancroft, "who were oppressed by the laws of England, were sure to find a peaceful asylum in the quiet harbors of the Chesapeake, and there, too, Protestants were sheltered from Protestant intolerance." "The Puritan, wrote John O'Kane Murray; who was hunted out of Anglican Virginia, and the peaceful quaker whose ears were cropped in Puritan New Eng-

land found a refuge among the liberal and warm-hearted Catholics of Maryland."

That most of the early settlers were Irish, may be seen not only from the immense numbers of Irish names on the muster-roll of the Maryland troops in the Revolutionary War, but also from the great number of Irish names given to various places throughout the large state. In the office of the Land commissioner at Annapolis, Maryland, are several bound volumes entitled "The Early Settlers 1633—1680." These volumes contain an amazing amount of information concerning the earliest settlers of the State, the names of immigrants, the years of their arrival, certificates of Patents for the allotment of land from the Proprietary Government, Rent Rolls, various land transactions, mortgages, deeds, wills, etc. All showing the vast Celtic element of Maryland, and the important part they have taken in laying the foundations of that State. It is intensely interesting to notice, that in the land grants, the Irish settlers named their plantations after the different Provinces, Cities, Towns, and Baronies of Ireland. In Cecil and Harford Counties in 1680 a vast tract of land, one hundred miles long by eighty miles broad was called "New Ireland." In 1684, Lord Baltimore issued a Proclamation naming this vast section, the "County of New Ireland." This country

was subdivided into three parts, namely, "New Connaught"; a plantation of eighty thousand acres, owned and patented by George Talbot from Castle Rooney, County Roscommon, "New Leinster," a plantation owned and patented by Bryan O'Daly from Wicklow, "New Munster" a plantation owned and patented by Edmund O'Dwyer, and other Irishmen from Tipperary. Our historians will look in vain for their beloved "Ulster" in this "New Ireland", for there is none. These three Provinces were further subdivided into smaller sections, and patented and recorded under the names of various Irish Counties, as Galway, Sligo, Leitrim, Wexford, Kilkenny, Bandon, Bantry, Cork, Youghal, Clonmell, Fethard, Waterford, Malloy, Limerick, Birr, Clare, Tralee, Raphoe, Dublin, Cavan, Donegal, Leterkenny, etc. We have already stated that the Charles Carroll estate was named Carrollton, and Baltimore was named from Baltimore County, County Cork, Ireland. In a letter from the Episcopal Clergy of Maryland to the bishop of London, dated May 1, 1696, the following complaint was made: "Great numbers of Irish Papists are being brought continually into Maryland, and many Irish priests are suspected of coming incognito, as having no better refuge in the King's Dominions upon their being banished from Ireland." And Charles Carroll,



writing in behalf of himself and the other Roman Catholics of the Province in his petition stated: "A very great number of gentlemen of good and Ancient Families and other Roman Catholics of the Kingdoms of Ireland and England, being vexed and persecuted by the several penal Statutes made against them in their native Countries, transported themselves into this province."

## VIRGINIA

In the County Records, the Land and Probate Records, the old Parish Records and other State documents of Virginia, a vast amount of data may be found, all showing the large number of Irish who settled in this State even before the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth Rock in 1620. It was from Virginia, that Sir William Raleigh, its founder and colonizer, brought the first potatoes to Ireland where he occupied 42,000 acres in County Cork from the confiscated domains of the Desmonds in 1586. Neill, in his "History of the English Colonization in America" says: "Ireland has always been the hive from which America has derived sturdy hewers of wood to subdue the forest." The records show that in 1621, Sir William Newce brought from Cork, in the ship "Flying Harte"

a colony which settled in what now is Newport News, and, a little later Daniel Gookin of Carrigoline, County Cork, "transported to Virginia great multitudes of people and cattle from Ireland and England." During Cromwell's bloody reign of Slaughter in Ireland, McGee informs us that "Children under age, of both sexes, were captured by the thousands, and sold as slaves to the tobacco planters of Virginia and the West Indies" in 1651. Many others were sent to the Barbadoes Islands. Contemporary accounts make the total number of children and adults so transported 100,000 souls. To this decimation may be added 34,000 men of fighting age, who had permission to enter the armies of foreign powers at peace with the Commonwealth. Between those who were slaughtered, deported or emigrated during the reign of terror of this callously brutal and savage regicide, the population of Ireland was reduced to nearly one half. No wonder that the most awful affliction any Irish person can wish upon their worst enemy is that "The curse of Cromwell may follow you". But in charity they generally add— "And never overtake you." But, besides those who, in times of open strife and armed conflicts were thus ruthlessly torn away and deported from their mother country, there were also large numbers all through the seven-

teenth and eighteenth centuries, who, voluntarily although reluctantly emigrated to the different American Colonies. They resented the political and religious restrictions forced upon them by the British Government, and disposing of their properties, or business, determined to seek in foreign lands the right of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Samuel Kercheval in his History of the Valley of Virginia (p. 46), states: that previous to 1744, several immigrants from Pennsylvania chiefly Irish settled on the South Branch of the Shenandoah River, and that the earliest settlers on the upper waters of the Openquon were a mixture of Irish and Germans." Another Irish contingent settled in the same neighborhood in 1763, and of them the same historian wrote : "the Irish, like the Germans, brought with them their religion, customs, and habits of their ancestors, and the Irish wedding was always the occasion of great hilarity, jollity, and mirth." He also informs us that William McMahon was "Justice of the first Court which sat in Frederick County in 1743" and, among the pioneer lawyers of that County were Michael Quinn and John Ryan. At Winchester the Irish were so numerous that, according to the records, St. Patriek's Day, the Irish National festival, was regularly celebrated. In the "County Records of Virginia"

the following appears: "The foremost man in Augusta County during its early settlement was James Patton, who was a native of Newton-Limavaddy Co., Derry, Ireland, where he was born in 1692. As a master and owner of a merchant vessel, he brought many settlers to Virginia." In the Records of Robert Dinwiddie, Lieutenant Governor of the Colony of Virginia, he is referred to as follows: "Colonel James Patton entered into the America trade to Hobbes's Hole Virginia, on the Rappahannock River. Said to have crossed the Atlantic twenty-five times to bring Irish emigrants who served a given time to pay the cost of their transportation. Augusta County, in which he received a grant of 120,000 acres of land, was largely settled through his agency." When Washington was Colonel of the Virginia troops, in 1754, twenty-eight per cent of his men were born in Ireland. Andrew Lewis, a native of Ireland, who so bravely commanded Virginia troops at the battle of Point Pleasant, in 1774, was now Captain of the Company. In the frontier militia in Lord Dunmore's War many Irish names appear in the muster-rolls. Among the most prominent Virginian families of Irish descent still extant are the McCartys, Lynches, Meades, Prestons, Lewises, Sullivans, McCormicks, McElroys, McNeills, McGuires, McDonnells and Farrells. For many generations

a close friendship and relationship have existed between the descendants of the Irish settlers and those of the "Cavalier" families. The McCartys of Virginia were closely related to the Washington family, and were intermarried with the Balls, Fitzhughs, Lees, and others of the most prominent Virginia families. Mary Ball, the mother of George Washington, was a cousin of Ann McCarty, daughter of Dennis McCarty of Westmoreland County, Virginia. Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, in his *Genealogy of the Ball Family*, shows that in the register of Cople Parish, Westmoreland County is the record of the marriage of Dennis McCarty and Sarah Ball, September 22, 1724. This Sarah Ball was the daughter of Colonel William Ball brother of Joseph, the father of Mary Ball, the mother of George Washington, this Mary Ball married Augustine Washington the father of George Washington, so the relationship between Mary Ball Washington and Ann McCarty was that of second cousin. This Dennis McCarty was the son of Daniel McCarty, who, with his brother Dennis, was exiled from Ireland, in 1690 when their ancestral estates at Kinsale, County Cork were confiscated by the British Crown. If the genealogies of many, if not most of the old Southern families, were traced back to their source, it would be found that they are of purely Irish blood, instead of

the mongrel Anglo-Saxon or Scotch-Irish. The descendants of the Meades, McCartys, Prestons, Lewises, McCormicks, McElroys, McDonnells, and many other old families in Virginia, and other Southern States may now claim they are of Anglo-Saxon or Scotch-Irish stock, but they are all purely Irish, or of Irish extraction. Thus, Andrew Meade, the progenitor of the Meade family was a Catholic Irishman from County Kerry. The McCartys of the George Washington family-line are descendants of Daniel and Dennis McCarty, from Kinsdale County Cork, who were exiled from Ireland in 1690, and so on ad indefinitum. In the Bali and Virginia Genealogies alone, anyone may find ample evidence to verify the statement of the great New York editor, Patrick Ford, when in one of his letters to Gladstone, he said: "The crimson tide that flows in America's Veins, is largely Irish." In the muster-rolls of the Virginia Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War, as usual, Irish names abound. That they nobly displayed the heroism of their race is seen in the long list of men cited and rewarded for bravery. In the official records of the State Land Office at Frankfort, published by the Virginia Historical Society, appear the names of 388 Irishmen, to whom Land Bounty warrants were granted for distinguished Military Service, by the State of Vir-

ginia. That some of the officers displayed remarkable bravery is seen by the large bounty awarded them; 10,753 acres of land were allotted to Major William Croghan, 5,333 acres to Major John Fitzgerald, 5,000 to Major Charles Maghill, 4,666 to Captain John Fitzgerald, 4,000 each to Captains Benjamin Casey, Martin Haley, Thadey Kelly, John Kearney, John Kenon, John McIlhenny, William Barrett, Robert Higgins, Richard Callahue, John Larty, John Kilty, Richard McCarty, Ferdinand O'Neil, John Shields, and Patrick Wright; 2,666 were allotted to Lieutenants Christopher Brady, Joseph Conway, Robert Power, Luke Cannon, Edward Connor, Peter Higgins, Timothy Feeley, Pierce Nowlan, and William McGuire.

## THE CAROLINAS

Irish settlers came to South Carolina from Kinsale, County Cork, as early as 1669. Sullivan's Island, in Charleston Harbor, was named after Florence O'Sullivan, one of these early pioneers. He is mentioned in the records as one of the leading men, having been appointed Surveyor-general of the Colony, and, in 1671, was Commander of a body of men organized for the protection of the Colonists from the Indians. (See Hewatt's Historical Account of the Rise

and progress of the Colonies of South Carolina and Georgia.) According to the Council Journals of South Carolina, many Irish people settled in Berkely County, towards the end of the Seventeenth Century. They were of the farming class, and occupied large tracts of lands, along the Cooper and Ashley rivers. That they were of the real old Irish stock may be seen from such names as: O'Neill, Donnahue, Lynch, McCarty, Brady, Donovan, Croncy, Mulligan, Logan, Sullivan, McKeown, Fitzgerald, McLaughlin, O'Kelly etc. A large tract of land comprising 12,000 acres, along the Cooper River, belonging to John Gough, Dominic Arthur and Michael Mahon, was known as "Ye Middle Settlement, or, Limerick Plantation." The descendants of these pioneers, are mentioned in the records down through several generations, as of eminent respectability.

A settlement of Irish people was formed at Dorchester, near Charleston, among whom may be mentioned Teague Canty, the progenitor of the Canty families, who were among the most prominent in South Carolina. In 1737, another colony came from Ireland, and located near Newberry and Camden, and the records state that they formed "the bulk of the entire population of that section." and were "by far the most notable body of early settlers in that part



of the State''. In the original abstracts and deeds of land grants are recorded such names as: O'Quinn, O'Cain, McGovern, O'Neill, McConnell, Brady, Rourke, Hannahan, Casey, Regan, Drennan, Flanigan, Dugan, Malloy, Malone, Madigan, Brennon, Cassirly, Dunn, Downey, Murphy, Fitzgerald, and Lynch. Here lived Judge John Belton O'Neill, the grandson of the famous chieftain, Hugh O'Neill. He emigrated from Ireland to Newberry in 1752. It was from the descendants of that section that came some of the bravest soldiers of the Revolution. In 1734, an important Irish Colony settled in the present Williamsburg County, and, of these, Ramsay states: "By this (1730) accounts of the great privileges granted by the Crown for the encouragement of the Settlers in the Province had been published through Britain and Ireland, and many industrious people had resolved to take the benefit of the Royal Bounty. Multitudes of labourers and husbandmen in Ireland, oppressed by the landlords and bishops, and, unable to procure a comfortable subsistence for their families, embarked for Carolina. The first colony of Irish people had lands granted to them, and, about the year 1734 formed a settlement called Williamsburg Township. As this township received frequent supplies from the same quarter, the Irish settlers, amidst every hardship, in-

creased in number. Having obtained credit with the merchants for negroes, they were relieved from the severest part of their labour. By this aid and their own industry, spots of land were cleared, which, in a short period yielded them plenty of provisions and in time, became fruitful estates. It encouraged multitudes of poor oppressed people in Ireland, Holland and Germany to emigrate, by which means the province received a number of useful settlers."

This vast region of South Carolina needed many settlers to clean and cultivate it, and many inducements were offered to the vigorous and enterprising people of Germany, Holland and especially Ireland, to come and settle there. The Provincial Government offered free passages, a ten year exemption of taxes, as well as money bounties, as inducements, and, Ramsay informs us, "many Irish people accepted this offer." On arrival, each man received 100 acres of land, and 50 for each woman and child. In this manner 48,000 acres of exceedingly fertile lands were allotted to the Irish settlers. Writing about the various European settlers, Ramsay again states: "But of all countries none have furnished the province with so many inhabitants as Ireland. Scarce a ship sailed from any of its ports for Charleston that was not crowded by men, women and children. The

bounty allowed to the new settlers induced numbers of these people to resort to Carolina. The merchants, finding this bounty equivalent to the expense of the passage, persuaded the people to embark. Many causes may be assigned for this spirit of emigration from Ireland, but, domestic oppression was the most powerful and prevalent."

The indelible footprints of the Irish can be traced by the names they gave to the different localities. On the Carolina maps appear the names of many places like the following: Moresville, Grogansville, McConnellsville, Neely, Powers, Lynch Station, Limerick, Belfast, Mayo, Muccross, Mount Mourne, Claremont, Fitzgerald, Cody, Courtney, Malloy, Riley, Corbett, Murphy, Hogan's Creek, Murphreesboro, Lyons, Mullen, Gorman, Dalton, Donnoha, Gaffney, McGrady, and so on. The early Irish settlers gave to these places either their family names, or, those of the localities in Ireland they came from; as, in Illinois and other States at present are found the names of Vinegar Hill, Dundee, Shannon, Lee, Reynoldsville, New Dublin, etc.

In the Colonial Records of North Carolina, the following remarkable account is given: "The immigrants from Ireland, in companies sufficient to form settlements, sought the wilds of America by two avenues; the one by Dela-

ware River at Philadelphia, the other, through Charleston. Those landing at the southern port immediately sought the fertile forests of the upper country, approaching North Carolina and Georgia on the other, and, not being particular about boundaries, extended southward at pleasure: while on the north they were checked by a counter-tide of immigration. Those who landed on the Delaware after the desirable lands east of the Alleghanies in Pennsylvania were occupied, turned their course southward and were speedily on the Catawba. Passing on, they met the southern tide, and the stream turned westward to the wilderness long known as "beyond the mountains" (now Tennessee). These two streams from the same original fountain, Ireland, meeting and intermingling in this new soil, preserve their characteristic difference; the one possessing some of the air and manner of Pennsylvania, the other, of Charleston. These enterprising settlers, inured to toil, were hardy and long lived. The constitutions that grew up in Ireland and Pennsylvania, seemed to gather strength and suppleness from the warm climate and fertile soil of their new abodes. Most of the settlers lived long enough to witness the dawning of that prosperity that awaited their children." The same records further state: "that, in 1746 the Irish were the first settlers in the Yadkin

River District. Soon the districts between the Yadkin and Catawba were laid out in tracts of cultivated lands, the wild brush and shrub growths cleared, immense grazing farms were established, houses grew up, children came, and the settlements populated."

Many of these early Irish settlers in the Carolinas became distinguished leaders in State and National affairs. James Moore, from County Kildare, was Governor of South Carolina in 1700. Arthur Dobbs and Mathew Rowan, both natives of Carrickfergus, County Antrim, were Governors of North Carolina, the former in 1756 and the latter in 1764. John and Edward Rutledge from County Leitrim were Governors of South Carolina, John in 1776 and Edward in 1788; and Thomas Burke was Governor in 1781. Writing of James Moore, Ramsay in his *History of South Carolina* states;—"He was a man excellently qualified for being a popular leader in perilous adventures. He had been removed by the previous Governor from the command of the militia, for warmly espousing the cause of the people. In every new enterprise he had been a volunteer, and, in all his undertakings was resolute, steady and inflexible." Governor Moore was a descendant of Rory O'Moore, the dauntless Irish chieftain. Rory was the organizer of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and for many years was

the terror and the scourge of the English Pale in Ireland.

Ireland and America, especially in Colonial days, have been commercially and otherwise so intimately associated, that the heroic deeds of the brave patriots of each country are equally interesting. In recalling here the name of Rory O'Moore, the student of Irish history will remember the daring adventure of that noble chieftain, in avenging the slaughter of one hundred and eighty of the O'Moores, at the "Feast of Mullaghmast", in 1577. By way of digression, it may be interesting here to quote A. M. Sullivan in his "Story of Ireland", relative to that horrible event". In 1577, Sir Francis Cosby, commanding the Queen's troops, in Leix and Offaly, formed a diabolical plot for the permanent conquest of that district. Peace at the moment prevailed between the government and inhabitants; but, Cosby, seemed to think that in extirpation lay the only effectual security for the Crown. Feigning however, great friendship, albeit suspicious of some few "evil disposed" persons, said not to be well-affected, he invited to a grand feast all the chief families of the territory attendance thereat being a sort of test of amity. To this summons responded the flower of the Irish nobility in Leix and Offaly, with their kinsmen and friends, the O'Moores, O'Kellys, Lalors, O'Nolans, etc;

the "banquet" alas! was prepared by Cosby in the great Rath or Fort of Mullaghmast, in Kildare County. Into the great rath rode many a cavalcade that day, but none ever came forth that entered in. A gentleman, named Lalor, who had halted a little way off, had his suspicions in some way aroused. He noticed, it is said, that while many went into the rath, none were seen to reappear outside. Accordingly, he desired his friends to remain behind while he advanced and reconnoitered. He entered cautiously; inside, what a horrid spectacle met his sight! At the very entrance the dead bodies of some of his slaughtered kinsmen. In an instant he himself was set upon; but, drawing his sword, he hewed his way out of the fort and back to his friends, and they barely escaped with their lives to Dysart. He was the only Irishman, out of more than four hundred, who entered the fort that day, that escaped with life. The invited guests were butchered to a man; one hundred and eighty of the O'Moores alone having perished. A sword of vengeance tracked Cosby from that day. In Leix and Offaly after this terrible blow, there was no raising a regular force; yet, of the family thus murderously cut down, there remained one man, who thenceforth lived but to avenge his slaughtered kindred. This was Ruari Oge O'Moore, the guerilla chief of Leix

and Offaly, long the terror and scourge of the Pale. While he lived, none of Cosby's "undertakers" slept securely in the homes of the plundered race. Swooping down upon their castles and mansions, towns and settlements, Ruari became to them an Angel of Destruction. When they deemed him farthest away, his sword of vengeance was at hand. In the lurid glare of burning roof, and the blazing granary, they saw, like a spectre from the rath, the face of an O'Moore; and, above the roar of the flames, the shrieks of victims, or the crash of falling battlements, they heard in the hoarse voice of an implacable avenger, "Remember Mullaghmast." And the sword of Ireland still was swift and strong to pursue the author of that bloody deed and to strike him and his race through two generations. One by one they met their doom. On the bloody day of Glenmalur, when the red flag of England went down in the battle's hurricane, and Elizabeth's proud Viceroy, Lord Gray de Wilton, and all the chivalry of the Pale were scattered and strewn like autumn leaves in the gale, Cosby of Mullaghmast fell in the rout, sent swiftly to eternal Judgment with the brand of Cain upon his brow. A like doom, a fatality, tracked his children from generation to generation. They too, perished by the sword or the battle axe; the last of them, son and grandson, on one



day by the stroke of an avenging O'Moore."

Many other Irishmen became prominent in the Carolinas, Cornelius Harnett, from Dublin was a member of the council, and in 1778 represented North Carolina in the Continental Congress. Hugh Waddell from Lisburn, County Antrim was "Commander of the Militia." Barney McKinney was a member of the Assembly. In 1730, John Connor was Attorney-General of North Carolina, and his successor in the same office was David O'Sheal. Thomas McGuire was "Judge of the Admiralty" in 1760 and later on became Captain General of the Province," and in 1767, was appointed Attorney General. Many other Irishmen throughout various sections of North Carolina were Judges and members of the General Assembly.

## GEORGIA

This colony was established in 1733 by James Oglethorpe, and was called Georgia after the English King, George 2nd. Here, as well as in almost all the other colonies, no mention is made of Irish settlers, by our American historians. If mentioned at all, they refer to them as Irish Protestants or Scotch-Irish. But, in the Colonial Records of Georgia published at Atlanta, are to be found numerous Irish names, of men, who largely contributed to

the upbuilding and development of that State. Not only in the muster-rolls of the Colonial militia are many Irish names found, but even some important cities in Georgia were founded by Irishmen. Charles C. Jones in his *History of Georgia*, Vol.1 pp. 217-18, states: "that the city of Augusta was founded by Kennedy O'Brien, which sounds not only Irish, but also, Catholic. Rev. George White in his *Historical Collections of Georgia*, informs us: that the city of Atlanta was laid out by an Irishman named Mitchel; a progenitor of the famous Irish patriot, John Mitchel, who was transported by the British Government, and whose dying words were, "I have never made peace with England." The same authority states: that the City of Dublin, Georgia, was founded by an Irishman named McCormack from Dublin, Ireland. The town called Fitzgerald is named after Colonel John Fitzgerald, aide-de-camp and close friend of Washington in the Revolutionary war. The city of McDonough is named after the victor of the battle of Lake Champlain. The Town of Jasper is named after the Irishman Sergeant William Jasper, of Revolutionary fame. Twenty-two counties in Georgia are named in honor of Irish born men, or of Irish descent, who were distinguished citizens in the State, and many places are called not only after Irish family names,

but also Irish Counties, such as Limerick, Cork, Belfast, Ennis, Clare, Tyrone, Killarney, Blarney, Dublin, Newry and Donegal. In those days, in order to induce as many people as possible to come out and settle in the different colonies, handbills and other advertisements were often distributed throughout Ireland. In 1766 the General Assembly of Georgia passed an act "to encourage settlers to come into the Province." Copies of this were circulated in Ireland with the result that in 1768 from Ireland came "the most numerous single colony which up to that time had come to Georgia from any European country."

The Colonial Records state: that a petition was presented to the Provincial Council in 1770 "from sundry persons, who arrived from Ireland, who had lands ordered them in "Queensborough Township". This petition stated: "that they were chiefly farmers; that being of late years greatly oppressed by rents in Ireland, so that the most exerted industry scarcely afforded a comfortable subsistence to their families, they determined to seek relief by moving to the American Colonies. That being informed by sundry letters from their friends, who came to settle in this Province from Ireland last year, in the ship, Prince George, that a certain portion of land was laid out and appropriated for the purpose of settling a

township in this Province; the consideration of the great privileges and advantages afforded them by the Governor and the General Assembly were powerful inducements to their immediately resolving to leave their native country, to part with their little substance and thereby enable them to come over and settle in this flourishing Province, hoping to entitle themselves to its protection, encouragement and assistance, and, of being found in return to the utmost of their ability, equally useful in forwarding your generous intentions in the further settling and increasing the same. That although some of your petitioners have come over upon Redemption, yet, the far greater part have paid their passage, in the doing of which they have much reduced their substance, many having families. "Therefore, they asked: "that they may be partakers with their fellow-countrymen in the lands yet ungranted in the Township of Queensborough, and to grant them such other relief as in your great wisdom and generous disposition you shall judge necessary to their circumstances." The records state: "It was ordered that the said petition be postponed until the lands reserved for the Irish settlers be ascertained. As a result a large tract of land comprising 25,000 acres of land adjoining Queensborough Township was reserved for the Irish settlers. In the same year, another

Irish contingent arrived at Savannah and formed what is known as the "Irish Colony," along the Ogeechee River, Wayne County, named after the Irish-American General. Anthony Wayne, the hero of Stony Point, was largely settled by Irish people. Dooly County named after the Irishman, Colonel John Dooly, Commander of the Georgia militia in the Revolution, also contained many inhabitants from Ireland. After the war, Colonel Dooly became a Judge of the Superior Court. Rev. George White, in his Historical Collections of Georgia, states: The Doolys originally came from Ireland to North Carolina, but, about the beginning of the Revolution, settled in Lincoln County, Georgia. Colonel Dooly was conspicuous for his services on both sides of the Savannah River above and below Petersburg, and, at Kettle Creek he commanded the right wing of the American forces and largely contributed to the victory of the Americans.

Writing of the Georgian Colonists Smith states: "As a general thing, these colonists had no one to preach to them and no one teach their children, save now and then a wandering Irishman, who taught a subscription school for a few months of the year."

## NEW ENGLAND

Even to Puritan New England, the Irish immigrants came in large numbers. In the various early records, surprisingly large numbers of distinctly Irish names are to be found. In the Boston "Town Records," the arrivals of many vessels with passengers from the various Irish Ports, in the early part of the 17th Century are recorded. These early settlers were mostly of the farming class from Munster, Leinster and Connaught, who were called "Recusants," because they refused to acknowledge the spiritual supremacy of Charles I. Through the most flagrant acts of injustice ever recorded in history, their lands were declared "forfeited to the Crown" by fraudulently proven "defective titles". The perpetrator of this wholesale highway robbery was the Earl of Strafford, who, next to Oliver Cromwell, was the most consummate tyrant that ever cursed a country with cruelty and greed. This ignoble mentor of Charles I. confiscated 66,000 acres of rich land in Wicklow. 385,000 acres in Leitrim and Longford, besides whole counties in Meath, King's and Queen's counties were declared forfeited to the Crown in 1639.

But in Boston and other cities and towns, many of these Irish settlers were merchants,

mechanics and shipbuilders. In the early history of Boston, no names are more frequently and prominently mentioned in the business and political life, than those of Thaddeus McCarty and Captain Daniel Malcom. Malcom was a trader and importer on Fleet Street, Boston, and his place of business was the headquarters where Hancock, Adams, Otis, Ward, and other leading citizens met and discussed the vital question of American Independence. In 1720 a large colony of over fifteen hundred people arrived in Boston from Ireland, in five ships and settled along the coast of Maine. Among them were many school teachers from whom the children of the Puritan families not only received their education, but also imbibed the spirit of liberty which ultimately culminated in the Revolution. Mention has already been made of John Sullivan, the "Limerick Schoolmaster" who taught the Puritan children of New England for more than sixty years. That these teachers were genuine Irish, is evident by such names as; Kelly, Sullivan, Fitzgerald, Hickey, Murphy, Mooney, Moloney, McMahon, Lynch, O'Brien, Reilly, etc.

Another colony headed by Robert Temple of Tipperary arrived in the same year and settled in Lancaster County, along the Kenebec and Eastern Rivers, and established the town of "Cork". This district for several miles along

the Eastern River was known for over a century by the name of "Ireland," and, a bend in the river near the present town of Dresden is still known as the "Cove of Cork." This Robert Temple was of the distinguished Temple family of Tipperary, who intermarried with the famous Emmet family, the progenitors of the young and noble Irish patriot and martyr, Robert Emmet. The "American Weekly Mercury" of Philadelphia of February 18th 1729, in its Dublin items, states; "Above nineteen hundred families had already sailed from Ireland to New England," and, "many more are daily sailing out for that place, the rents of land being risen so high that tillers of it say they hardly get bread." The large number of emigrants from Ireland to New England may be estimated by the constant arrival of ships with people from Ireland all through the first half of the 18th century. We quote the following from Michael J. O'Brien's admirable work. "A Hidden Phase of American History" p. 213 and following; "For the convenience of those who may wish to verify these statements, I append hereto a list of various official records, verbatim copies of which have been published and are usually available at the large public libraries and historical societies. In such records as the Minutes of the Meetings of the Selectmen of the Town of Boston Vols. xiii



to xxvii, the Suffolk Court Files, published by the Massachusetts Historical Society Boston, the Probate Records of Suffolk County, the Lincoln County Wills, the State Records of New Hampshire, the Town Registers of various Maine and New Hampshire towns, the Vital Records of Massachusetts towns, the voluminous collections of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, the numerous local histories of New England towns, which, in most cases, contain verbatim copies of the entries in the original Town Books and the many other sources of information that have been published by historical societies, genealogists, and searchers into the original records, may be seen a long succession of familiar Irish names, showing that at an early period of its existence as an English colony, New England attracted thither large numbers of Irish immigrants. In the Minutes of the Meetings of the Selectmen of the Town of Boston, the arrival of vessels from Europe are recorded at various times. "The Globe from Ireland" arrived at that port on June 25, 1716, with twenty-nine passengers; the ships, *Patience* and *Judith*, arrived from London on June 19, 1716, with passengers, several of whom were Irish, and, "The America from Lisburn in Ireland" arrived on July 3rd, 1716. A meeting of the Selectmen was held on August 12, 1718, for the purpose

of determining the disposition of "the passengers lately arrived from Ireland and elsewhere" and at a meeting of the same body on Sept. 12, 1724, Captain Philip Bass appeared and reported upon the condition of "the Passengers" in his vessel, lately arrived from Ireland into this Harbour." At a meeting on August 9, 1736, mention was made of "nineteen Transports just imported from Cork in Ireland" and in the next month Captain John Carroll reported to the Selectmen that he had brought a number of people from Ireland, and September 22, 1736, they were all "admitted as inhabitants."

At a meeting on November 10, 1736, Captain George Beard executed a bond of Penalty of One Thousand Pounds to indemnify the Town from Charges on account of Thirty-seven Passengers imported by him from Ireland in the Sloop "Hannah" and two weeks later Captain James Williams of the sloop "Two Mollys" gave a similar bond in the sum of eleven hundred pounds "on account of forty-three passengers by the said Wiliams imported from Ireland." On September 7, 1737, "Captain Daniel Gibbs, Commander of the Ship Sagamore from Ireland" was called before a meeting "to report upon the condition of his Passengers." Among the entries on the Town Books of Boston covering bonds of indemnity on account of

“passengers imported from Ireland” given by the masters of vessels or other persons interested, are found the following; September 15, 1737, bond of 500 pounds by Samuel Todd “for Passengers from Ireland in the Brigatine Elizabeth”. November 8, 1737, bond of 600 pounds by Captain James Finney and others “on account of 162 Passengers imported by the said Finney on the Snow Charming Molly from Ireland.” December 3, 1738, bond of 500 pounds Captain Nathaniel Montgomery “on account of 82 Passengers imported in the ship Eagle from Ireland. May 29, 1739, bond of 250 pounds by Captain Ephraim Jackson “on account of 42 Passengers imported in the ship Barwick from Ireland,” and, on October 7, 1741, Captains John Seymore and William Palmer were notified “to appear and give bonds to the Town Treasurer for the Passengers they have imported from Ireland.” In view of these constant Irish immigrations to Massachusetts, we can understand why “several Gentlemen Merchants and others of the Irish Nation residing in Boston” met on St. Patrick’s Day, 1737, and formed the “Charitable Irish Society” “from an affectionate and compassionate concern for their Countrymen in these parts, who may be reduced by sickness, shipwreck, old age and other infirmities and unforeseen accidents.” (See published records

of the Society, Boston 1876.) Mr. O'Brien further states; "Under the head of "Port Arrivals—Immigrants" in the Town Books, a large number of Irish names are recorded between the years 1762 and 1769." Captain Daniel McCarthy Master of the ship, Sally, from Kinsale in Ireland" appeared before the Selectmen on May 21, 1763, and "reported on his passengers" before they were allowed to land, and on May 30, 1764, the record says that; Captain William Clouston of the Brigantine Hound, appeared and reported that he had been from Cork in Ireland 34 days." Among the "Port Arrivals" at Boston in the year 1762, sixty-nine Irish names are recorded; in 1764, twenty-three Irish names; in 1765 eighty-four, in 1766, 195 and in 1767, 102 Irish names. These represent the arrivals of seven vessels only, and the list of the names embrace some of the most prominent family names in Irish nomenclature, and indicate that these immigrants came from all parts of Ireland."

"In the Town Books of Boston alone there are approximately two thousand Irish names of people whose marriages were solemnized in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, during the eighteenth century; and an examination of the ancient records reproduced in the New England Historic and Genealogical Register would prove a veritable surprise to those, who assume, that

this section of the Country was settled solely by English Colonists. The Massachusetts Probate and Land Records are also replete with Irish names, showing that many of the Irish immigrants and their descendants were numbered among the substantial business men of various New England communities."

The foregoing statements of Mr. O'Brien, which show a most painstaking and accurate research into the authentic records of the period, completely refute the statements often made, that the people of New England are almost entirely of Anglo-Saxon origin. In the same article Mr. O'Brien shows that many of the old families of New England whose descendants perhaps, claim an Anglo-Saxon origin are nevertheless of Irish origin. For example; the ancestors of the Buttlers were immigrants from Waterford and Kilkenny; the Dexters are descended from Richard Dexter, who came to Boston from Ireland in 1642. The Massachusetts Fields are descended from the noted Irishman, Darby Field; the Blakes are descended from an old Galway family; and the Neals are descended from an Irishman of that name, who, together with Darby Field, discovered the White Mountains in New Hampshire, in the year 1643.

Whilst treating of the Irish in New England, it is appropriate to refer here to two notable

events which show the close and intimate relationship that existed between Ireland and the Colonies in early days. The first refers to the relief sent from Ireland to the starving Colonists of Massachusetts Bay during the winter of 1630-31; the second refers to the relief again sent from Ireland to the suffering Colonists during the Indian War of 1675-76. Rev. Thomas Prince in his *Chronological History and Annals of New England*, referring to the first event in his *Annals of 1631*, states: "As the winter came on, provisions were very scarce (in the Massachusetts Bay) and the people necessitated to feed on clams and mussels and ground nuts and acorns, and those were got with much difficulty in the winter season. Upon which people grew tired and discouraged, especially when they hear that the Governor himself has his last batch of bread in the oven. And many are the fears of the people that Mr. Pierce, who was sent to Ireland for provisions, is either cast away or taken by the pirates. Upon this a day of fasting and prayer to God for relief is appointed (to be on the sixth day of February). But God, Who delights to appear in the greatest straits, works marvelously at this time; for on Feb. 5th, the very day before the appointed fast, in comes the ship *Lion*, Mr. William Pierce, master, now arriving at Nantasket laden with provisions. Upon which joyful occasion

the day is changed and ordered to be kept (on the 22nd) as a day of Thanksgiving. Upon the 8th, the Governor, goes aboard the Lion, riding at Long Island. Next day the ship comes to an anchor before Boston (to the great joy of the people) where she rides very well, notwithstanding the great drifts of ice. And the provisions are by the Governor distributed to the people proportionable to their necessities."

It seems curious that the Puritans in their distress did not send Mr. Pierce for relief to England the "Mother Country," instead of to Ireland. It certainly indicates that they had little confidence in the charity or benevolence of the mother country; but on the other hand, the greatest confidence in a quick and generous response to their appeal for help from Ireland. It also shows the cordial and kindred feeling existing in those early days, between Ireland and the Colonists. However, it was fortunate that the provisions arrived in time to save the perishing Colonists, who in gratitude instituted the first Thanksgiving Day. This historic event occurred only eleven years after the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. The second event, in which timely relief again came from Ireland was in 1675-76, during what is known as the Indian or King Philip's War. In that terrible slaughter many of the people were murdered with re-

volting cruelty, their towns destroyed, their dwellings burned, and, the remnant that remained, reduced to almost utter want. In these times of misery and distress, Ireland again nobly came to the relief of the suffering Colonists. The Lord Mayor of Dublin in all haste had the ship, *Katherine*, loaded with supplies of all kinds and sent from Dublin to Boston on August 28, 1676. With it he sent three Commissioners to take charge of the distribution of the supplies. That they were generous in the extreme may be judged from the fact that the freight alone in those days cost 475 pounds sterling. In Massachusetts alone 47 towns and 2,351 persons were succored by this timely relief, which, in the official records of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, is known as the "Irish Donation." Writing on the subject a Colonial historian remarks: "The donation at the time was as generous as its reception was welcome to the distressed ones in New England." It was a splendid and a holy mission upon which the good ship *Katherine* set out from Dublin to Boston, conveying Irish generosity across the Atlantic to suffering humanity in far-away America and one which the people of New England gratefully remembered and generously repaid, in sending relief to the suffering people of Ireland during the English-made famine of 1847. The New England Historic-Genealogical



Society in grateful acknowledgement of the Irish Donation stated: "One hundred and seventy-one years after this time the people of Massachusetts had an opportunity of reciprocating the gift of benevolence wafted to these shores by the good ship Katherine of Dublin, when they organized a fund for the relief of the distressed people of Ireland, suffering from the effects of the famine of 1847."

The relief sent from Ireland in 1631 and again in 1676, was the occasion of a Thanksgiving Day celebration by the Puritans, and is perhaps the earliest observance of that day recorded in American history. As the origin of our present Thanksgiving Day celebration given by various writers is somewhat vague and uncertain, it would seem that here we have the real origin of this very appropriate annual celebration. That it is of Puritan origin is universally admitted, and that the Puritans celebrated it upon two occasions must also be admitted. Moreover, it is generally stated, that they established it at this period of their history, consequently, that here we have the real origin of Thanksgiving Day is easily seen. It is generally stated that Thanksgiving Day originated in the first harvest the Puritans gathered in 1621. The Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. xiv. p. 555 states: "The custom originated in 1621 when Governor Bradford of the Ply-

mouth colony appointed a day of public praise, after the first harvest and the practice spread throughout the other New England colonies." But this statement is disproved by all authentic history. Barnes, in his *United States History* states: "Their sufferings during the winter (of 1620) were severe, at one time there were only seven well persons to take care of the sick. Half the little band died." Sadlier states: "Owing to the severity of the season their sufferings were intense, and before spring half their number, including Governor Carver, had perished—"

The progress of the Colony was slow. At the end of ten years it numbered only 300 individuals! Lawler states: "They suffered so severely from the cold winter and scarcity of food that one-half of the colony perished during the winter and spring, among them John Carver, the Governor." Under such adverse and physically exhausting circumstances, together with their lack of seed, plowing and planting facilities in the spring, the first harvest of the Puritans must have been very lean and scant, and certainly did not call for a special day of thanksgiving to celebrate the joyful event, such as took place on the two occasions when relief came from Ireland. The first national observance of Thanksgiving Day was when Washington, following the pious ex-

ample of the Puritans recommended Thursday, 26th of November, 1789, to the people of the United States, "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts, the many and signal favors of Almighty God."

## NEW YORK

The cities of Boston and Philadelphia have been for many years, great Irish centers, but, New York, has been regarded as the great Irish metropolis of America. New York City and Albany were originally settled by the Dutch and the whole colony acknowledged the sway of Holland for fifty years. Manhattan Island, now New York City, was called New Amsterdam until 1664, when it passed into the hands of the Duke of York, afterwards James II. of England, from whom it received its present name. As has been already stated, a large commerce existed in early days between Ireland and the Colonies, and, as New York was one of the chief harbors, many Irish came over and settled here even before the beginning of the eighteenth century. The records of New Amsterdam state, "that in 1674 one of the richest inhabitants of New York" was an Irishman named Thomas Lewis. Thomas Dongan from County Kildare, Ireland, became Governor of the Province of New York in 1683. His father

was Sir John Dongan of Castletown and his maternal uncle was the famous Richard Talbot, Earl of Tyrconnell, who, with Sarsfield, nobly espoused the cause of the absolute independence of Ireland in 1690. Previous to becoming Governor of New York, he was Colonel in the French army, and commanded a regiment under Louis XIV. Governor Dongan established the first Legislative Assembly that ever sat in the State of New York. The first act passed by that body, October 30, 1683, was a charter of liberties which declared that "no person or persons which profess faith in God by Jesus Christ, shall at any time be any ways molested, punished, or disquieted; but, that all and every such person or persons may from time to time, and at all times, freely have and fully enjoy his or their judgments or consciences in matters of religion, throughout all the province." "This was the first memorable enactment," writes John O'Kane Murray, "passed by the first Legislative Assembly, which was presided over by the first Catholic Governor of New York; and at a time when toleration was unknown in the Protestant Colonies; at a time when Catholics were hunted like wild beasts in Virginia and Massachusetts!"

In 1688 Governor Dongan granted to the city what is generally known as the Dongan Charter, a document which to the present time con-

stitutes the basis and foundation of the municipal laws, rights, privileges, and franchises of New York City. "Considerable improvements," says Valentine, "were made in the city in Governor Dongan's time." The old city wall erected in 1653 was removed and the city considerably enlarged. On the site of this old wall the Governor had a new street built which he named Wall Street, which is now internationally known as the great financial centre of America. The colonization of New York State, with his countrymen from Ireland was the ardent desire of the Governor. In a report to the Lord President of the Council, Sept., 1687, he recommended that "natives of Ireland be sent here to colonize, where they may live and be very happy" (see Documentary History of New York by E. B. O'Callaghan, Vol. I. p. 265). John O'Kane Murray states: "Governor Dongan was a man of wide grasp of mind, tireless energy, fearless courage, great prudence, and remarkable executive ability. Whilst others were gazing at obstacles, he saw through them, or had them removed. While in power, success smiled on nearly all his measures. To plan and to execute were to him about the same. If today the State of New York is bounded on the north by Lake Ontario and the River St. Lawrence, who will deny that this is due to the ability of her first Catholic Governor? He was

a soldier of unsullied honor, and one of the most unselfish of men. Unlike the great majority of other Colonial Governors, who commonly came to America to enrich themselves, Governor Dongan expended most of his private fortune for the public good. He was liberal in an age of intolerance. A strict Catholic, he ruled a Protestant community with a justice that compelled admiration and a charity that transformed bitter enemies into friends. He was a man of uncompromising principle, and the British Empire could not buy him to do anything but his duty. He died, as he had lived, in the blessed religion of his fathers, and covered with years and honors."

Under such favorable conditions, it is no wonder the Irish came here in large numbers previous to the Revolution. They settled in Suffolk, Albany, Columbia, Ulster, and Westchester Counties, and along Lake Champlain in Essex County, New York. It was here along this lake that William Gilliland, an Irishman, established a large colony in 1765. He had purchased several thousands acres of land on the west side of Lake Champlain intended for settlement by numbers of families from Ireland. Another large tract of 40,000 acres, near Salem, White Creek and Stillwater, Washington County, was settled by people from County Monaghan, Ireland. Down to 1663 Irish merchants

were large exporters of various goods to different foreign countries, especially to the British colonies. Irish linen was highly prized. In a "report from Governor William Tryon on the State of the Province of New York" he states that, "more than eleven-twelfths of the inhabitants are clothed with linen imported from Ireland, and there is every year a great quantity of flax seed, lumber and iron sent to Ireland in ships generally belonging to that Kingdom, which come out annually with passengers and servants, as also with linen, beef and butter." All during this period, the New York newspapers regularly printed every week advertisements announcing the importation and sale not only of all kinds of Irish manufactured goods, but also the arrivals of ships, bringing passengers from the various Irish ports into New York harbor. Perhaps the most convincing proof of the large and influential Irish element in New York in Colonial days, is found in the annual celebration of Saint Patrick's Day. In the columns of the newspapers of New York in those days this annual celebration always occupied a prominent place. As an example we quote the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury of March 20, 1766. "The Anniversary of Saint Patrick, Titular Saint of Ireland, was attended by many gentlemen of that nation and others \* \* \* it was ushered in at dawn

with fifes and drums, which produced a very agreeable harmony among the inhabitants." At a banquet, among the toasts drunk on that occasion were the following: "May the enemies of America be branded with infamy and disdain." "Success to American Manufacturers." "The Day and Prosperity to Ireland." "Success to the Sons of Liberty." Gaines' newspaper of March 25, 1771, published an account of "an elegant entertainment held March 17, 1771, by the New York Sons of Liberty, which was attended by a "great number of the principal inhabitants of the City, Friends to Liberty and Trade." Among the toasts drunk on this occasion was: "Prosperity to Ireland and the worthy Sons and Daughters of Saint Patrick." Another banquet on the same evening was held at the Queen's Head Tavern by the Friendly Brothers of Saint Patrick, and Gaines' paper states: "Messages of Civil Compliment were exchanged by the Sons of Liberty and the Friendly Brothers of Saint Patrick, who dined at the Queen's Head Tavern." The Mercury on March 16, 1775, contained the following announcement: "Tomorrow, being the anniversary of Saint Patrick, Titular Saint of Ireland, will be observed with usual respect and attention by his generous sons and their descendants." During the Revolution the Saint Patrick's Day celebration was discontinued in New



York. But, after its triumphant conclusion, and the British had evacuated the city, the next recurring Saint Patrick's Day was celebrated with an especially joyous acclamation, and the present Society of the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick was organized on that occasion by the Irish residents of the City of New York.

The foregoing is merely a brief sketch or short summary of what might be written relative to the Irish element in the Colonies prior to the Revolution, but, short and brief as it is, it is sufficient to convince any unprejudiced mind that among the three million inhabitants of the colonies before the Revolution, the Irish element formed a very large and important proportion in numbers as well as a most potent factor in early American enterprise and development. Coming from what Daniel O'Connell justly described "the finest peasantry in Europe," they were exactly the kind of people this young and vast country then most needed to lay deep and solid the foundations of her future greatness. They came with their great wealth of latent and potential powers, their pure rich blood, their robust and vigorous constitutions, fertile and splendid intellects, warm-hearted and generous dispositions, deep religious faith and devotion, love of learning and romance, and with all these, their deeply earnest and indomitable determination. They came, not as our American historians would

have us believe, from Protestant Ulster alone, but also from Munster, Connaught and Leinster. They came, not as transients to enrich themselves and then return, but to become real loyal American citizens. Not as drones and idlers, but to do a man's work, and become the



JOHN PAUL JONES CAPTURING THE SERAPIS

most active and productive factors in the great American hive of energy and enterprise. They did not bring with them the malignant germs of anarchy or Socialism, but the healthy seeds of strong faith and virile purity. They came with all their superb health and vigor and genius, and generously gave of their very best in the upbuilding of this mighty nation. Whether we trace their footprints through the wilderness as they cleared the forests, or out on the

vast prairielands which they tamed and cultivated, or along the winding endless miles of railroads, highways and waterways, which they laid and digged, thereby opening up our vast country, or in the building up of all our great cities, and industrial centres, or in the Colonial armies defending the frontiers from hostile Indians, we shall find it was the Irish, "those hardy sons of toil," that in those early days "blazed the trail." It was a hard work, a gigantic undertaking, but not near so difficult as to surmount and live down the contempt and ridicule which preceded the Irish emigrant everywhere, propagated by the British government in order to justify its own brutality in plundering and driving them from home, but, moreover to prevent them from succeeding abroad. In the words of the great Archbishop of Chicago, Most Rev. P. A. Feehan: "England robbed the Irish people and then held them up to contempt saying, 'behold how poor these people are.' " She deprived them of education and held them up to scorn, saying, 'behold, how ignorant these people are.' " But, despite all this, they succeeded. Their splendid abilities had to be acknowledged and many of them became the leaders in civic and national affairs. The important part they played in the great achievement of American Independence will be shown in the next chapter.

## CHAPTER IV.

### IRISH ENLIST IN WASHINGTON'S ARMY

Persecuted and oppressed at home, and forced to emigrate from their own beloved country; no wonder these Irish exiles carried with them across the Atlantic a burning hatred and a deep and determined spirit of revenge against their oppressors. Neither could they brook British oppression here, so the moment they landed in the Colonies they immediately espoused the cause of American Independence. Like the Irish exiles, who, a century before, enlisting under the French, and other European Standards, won immortal renown at Landen, Namur, Straffardo, Cremona, Ramillies, and Fontenoy, so now, these exiles enlisted under the Standard of Washington and fought and died for American liberty, on every battlefield from Lexington to the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. "Thousands of men," says Narmian, "driven from their holdings, dissatisfied with the country, and expressing the deepest resentment against the British Government emigrated to America, arriving there at a critical moment, and, actuated by their wrongs, they joined the armies of Washington. then contending for independence, and contributed

by their numbers, as well as their courage and conduct, to separate the United States from the British Crown." While it is difficult to get the exact figures of the number of Irish in the Revolutionary army, yet, an almost accurate estimate can be formed, not only from various letters of English military commanders in America, written to their superiors in Eng-



BATTLE OF LEXINGTON

land, but, also from the rosters of the different American regiments, the official records of the different States during the Revolutionary period, and the local histories of towns and counties, as well as the publications of various historical societies. One of the most accurate and reliable statements relative to the proportion

of Irish in the Revolutionary army is furnished by Joseph Galloway in his testimony before a Parliamentary inquiry. This testimony was published in the New York Gazette in 1779, entitled, "The Examination of Joseph Galloway," and can be found in the Library of Congress. It is also copied in Michael J. O'Brien's learned work, "A Hidden Phase of American History," p. 83. The object of the inquiry was to examine certain charges of laxity and incompetence in the management of the American Revolution, by the Commander-in-Chief, Sir William Howe, and other officers of the British army. Several of the military chiefs were summoned home to England, to give testimony, among whom, besides Galloway, were Lord George Germain, Secretary of War, Lord Cornwallis, Sir Guy Carleton, Major-General Grey, Major-General James Robertson, and several other subordinate officers. In his testimony relative to his career in America, Galloway stated: "I have lived in America from my nativity to the month of October last, about forty-eight years. I have lived in the Province of Maryland, in the Delaware Counties, and in the Province of Pennsylvania, chiefly in Philadelphia. My public profession was that of the law. I practised in all the Courts of Pennsylvania, in those of the Delaware Counties, and in the Supreme Courts of New Jersey. I was a member of the Assembly

of Pennsylvania eighteen years and Speaker of the House, twelve. I was appointed by the Assembly of that Province, to attend the American Congress, which met on the 5th of September, 1774. During the last war (the French and Indian) under appointment of the same Assembly, I was one of the Commissioners for disposing of the money granted to the Crown, and have been several times a Commissioner to treat with the Indians, and when Sir William Howe took possession of the City of Philadelphia, at his request, I undertook the office of Superintendent of the Police of the City of Philadelphia and its suburbs, of the Port, and of the prohibited Articles." In answer to a question whether he "knew anything of the disposition of the other revolted Colonies" besides Pennsylvania and whether "from the successes of the British army, they were disposed to peace, or did they still remain sanguine in their hopes of maintaining their independence," Galloway said: "I had very good opportunities of knowing the state of the Middle Colonies in which I include New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the Delaware Counties, and Virginia," also that "gentlemen of fortune and integrity came to me from all parts of these Colonies, from whom I made it my particular business to learn the state of the disposition of the people of those Colonies."

The foregoing statements of Galloway before the members of the Parliamentary inquiry, show that he was particularly well qualified to testify on American affairs, and had an intimate and personal knowledge of the organization and make-up of the American army. Many questions were asked by the members of the investigating committee, among which were the following Question: "From your knowledge of the people of America, what proportion of the inhabitants, do you think, at this time, would prefer a reconciliation with Great Britain, rather than assist in supporting American independence?" Answer: "From the experience which the people have had of the superlative and excessive tyranny of their new rulers; from the distresses they have felt by the ravages of war and the loss of their trade; from the old attachment, and, I believe, an earnest desire to be united with this country, I think, I may venture to say, that many more than four-fifths of the people would prefer an union with Great Britain upon constitutional principles to that of independence." Question: "What was the encouragement held out to induce deserters to come over to us?" Answer: "A proclamation was issued by Sir William Howe, offering passage home to Ireland or England, their native country, and they were generally paid for their arms and accouter-



ments." Question: "That part of the rebel army that enlisted in the service of Congress, were they chiefly composed of natives of America, or were the greatest part of them English, Scotch, and Irish?" Answer: "The names and places of their nativity being taken down, I can answer the question with precision. There were scarcely one-fourth natives of America; about one-half Irish; the other fourth were English and Scotch." Here we have the sworn testimony of one, who was born and lived in America for forty-eight years; and, occupying as he did, many important posts in the government service, was thoroughly acquainted with the conditions existing among the people, and in the Revolutionary Army. He plainly states before this very important and grave commission; that, "one-half the rebel army was Irish; and one-fourth natives of America, and the other fourth were English and Scotch." It cannot be said that he was partial towards the Irish, for, although born in America, he was of English descent and strongly pro-British. In 1776, he was one of the first of several prominent Americans, who abandoned the American cause, and joined that of England. During his public career he was known to be strongly anti-Irish. In 1778, he sailed for England, never to return. The statement of Galloway is corroborated and confirmed by that of Major-General

James Robertson, who testified at the same Parliamentary inquiry. His testimony is recorded in the Parliamentary Register of the House of Commons, London, 1779. Before taking the stand, Lord Germain, introduced Robertson, by stating; that, "his long residence in America, upwards of twenty-four years, his high and deserved rank in the service, and his being present on the spot when the rebellion broke out, furnished him with every reason to expect that his evidence would be accurate and important, and, that he was in every way, from his long experience and local residence, enabled to give the most satisfactory information to the Committee." The following questions were asked of Robertson: "Whether the inhabitants of America have shown a willingness to take up arms in the present contest, and if the Congress found it easy to recruit their Armies? Robertson replied: "I can only answer from observations I have made on other facts. The armies have not filled, and from publications I have seen, there is no doubt but that they have often threatened to draft their militia." In answer to Edmund Burke's inquiry: "How are the provincial corps composed; whether mostly of native Americans, or from emigrants from various nations of Europe?" Robertson replied: "Some of the corps consisted mostly of natives; and others I believe the greatest number, are en-

listed from such people than can be got in the country, and many of them may be emigrants. Our force is not distinguished from the rebels in that circumstance. I remember General Lee telling me that he believed half the rebel army were from Ireland." In an official report from Ambrose Serle to the Earl of Dartmouth, dated, New York, September 25, 1776, Serle stated: "Great numbers of emigrants, particularly Irish, are in the rebel army." His statement is corroborated by that of Sir Joshua Pell, an English army officer, who recorded in his Diary, dated June 1, 1776, that: "The Rebels consist chiefly of Irish Redemptioners and convicts, the most audacious rascals existing." In describing an encounter with these Irish "rebels" at Trois Rivieres, he states: "The rebel Generals that commanded were Thompson and O'Sullivan. Thompson and Colonel Irwin, another Irishman, with about twelve officers of lesser note were amongst the pioneers." Thompson, O'Sullivan and Irwin referred to, were native-born Irishmen.

Not only the testimony of Galloway before the Parliamentary inquiry in London, but also his letters from America before he departed for England, confirm his statements. Writing to Lord Dartmouth on January 27, 1778, he stated: "As a proof of the aversion of the natives of America to the present rebellion, the rebels

are not one in ten of their whole army who are not either English, Scotch or Irish," but **by far the greater number of Irish.** Again on March 4, 1779, he wrote Lord Dartmouth, stating: "From the beginning there has been a reluctance in the natives of America to enter into the regular service of the Rebellion. They have been forced out in the Militia by heavy fines for a few months only. The English, Scotch and Irish, by far the most of the latter, **have principally composed the rebel regular army.**" They had fled from the real or fancied oppression of the landlord. Through dread of prosecution for the riots which their idea of that oppression had occasioned, they had transplanted themselves into a country where they could live without oppression and had estranged themselves from all solicitude of the welfare of Britain." This abundant, reliable and indisputable testimony, adduced from personal knowledge of the authors, ought to be sufficient to convince any reasonable person that the Irish formed a very large and important part of the Revolutionary army. It proves how utterly ridiculous are the statements frequently made that the Revolutionary war was "a conflict between men of the same race and blood." It also shows how prejudice may blind even an historian and lead him far away from the paths of truth and reason.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE IRISH SOLDIERS COULD NOT BE INDUCED TO DESERT FROM THE AMERICAN ARMY

Strong and almost irresistible temptations and allurements were made to induce especially the Irish soldiers to desert the American and come over to the English forces. This was done especially during the terrible winters of 1777 and 1778. Knowing the dire distress of Washington's army, the absolute need of money, food and clothing, "when the bare-footed soldiers left their tracks in blood upon the frozen ground," every kind of inducement and bribery of money, food, and clothing was offered by the British officers, especially to the Irish soldiers, to entice them to desert to the English camps; but all these flattering inducements had no effect upon these brave men. Spies were sent among them, offering free passages to Ireland, and telling them that the affairs between England and Ireland were fully settled and they are now firmly united. Decoy letters were also distributed among them, of which the following is a specimen: "The time is at length arrived when all the artifices and falsehoods of Congress, and your Commanders

can no longer conceal from you the misery of your situation; you are neither clothed, fed nor paid, your members are wasting away by sickness, famine, nakedness, and rapidly so by the period of your stipulated services being in general expired. This is then the moment to fly from slavery and fraud. I am happy in ac-



WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE

quainting the Old Country men that the affairs of Ireland are fully settled and that Great Britain and Ireland are firmly united, as well from interest, as from affection. I need not tell you, who were born in America, that you have been cheated and abused, and you are both

sensible that in order to procure your liberty you must quit your leaders and join your real friends, who scorn to impose upon you, and who will receive you with open arm, kindly forgiving you all your errors. You are told you are surrounded by a numerous militia. This is also false. Associate them together; make use of your firelocks and join the British Army, where you will be permitted to dispose of yourselves as you please." The chief man appointed to work this propaganda was General Sir Henry Clinton. In a report sent by him to Lord George Germain, British War Secretary, dated New York, October 23, 1778, he states the difficulty he had in carrying out his Lordship's instructions to draw off the American forces. "The emigrants from Ireland," he complains, "were in general looked upon as our most serious antagonists." So persistent was this propaganda work carried on by the English, amongst the American army, that Washington, on April 23, 1778, sent an order to the troops at Valley Forge warning them against the "devices of the enemy to induce them to desert." "Be not deluded," he said, "by the treacherous promises of the enemy, that, under pretense of sending deserters from this army free passage to Great Britain and Ireland, there to be set at large, the enemy's purpose was to confine them on shipboard with a view either to

force them into service as seamen, or transport them as recruits to some garrison." (See Revolutionary



WILLIAM PENN

lutionary Orders of General Washington by Henry Whiting.)



## CHAPTER VI.

### VAST NUMBERS OF ANGLO-SAXON LOYALISTS ABANDON THE CAUSE OF WASHINGTON AND FLEE TO CANADA AND ENGLAND.

On the other hand, the vast number of English Loyalists, who deserted America in her hour of trial, and fled to Canada and England is noteworthy. The English Loyalists or Tories were all those, who preferred to remain subject to the King of England. That they were numerous is evident from the various records of Revolutionary times. In General Robertson's testimony before the Parliamentary inquiry before referred to, he stated that the Loyalists "were more numerous than the rebels" and that "two-thirds of the people" during the Revolution, were loyal to the Crown of England. Other authorities state that "the records show that four-fifths of all the inhabitants of America during that period, boasting of English ancestry, remained Loyalists, and were the Tories of the Revolution." Robertson also states that among the European immigrants, some from Ireland, also were Loyalists. This statement cannot be doubted. There are some sycophant, servile and fawning Irish and

Irish-Americans, even in our times, who, if not actually ashamed to acknowledge their Irish ancestry, at least try to evade any reference to it. If asked to aid Ireland in her struggle for liberty, they resort to the subterfuge that they are Americans and have nothing to do with the affairs between Ireland and England. They are generally selfish in the enjoyment of the liberties which those of their race fought and died to establish. Fortunately, for America, such obsequious and small-minded people are few, and are overwhelmingly nullified now, as were those in Revolutionary days, by the vast number of their race, who enlisted under the banner of Washington, and gloriously fought and died to achieve the liberties we now enjoy. Egerton Ryerson in his work, entitled "The Loyalists of America and their Times," Vol. I., p. 184, informs us that "upwards of thirty thousand Loyalists fled to Canada. And, Sidney George Fisher in his "True History of the American Revolution, p. 234, states that "even up to one hundred thousand of them left with Sir Guy Carleton, when he evacuated New York. That vast numbers of them fled to England in 1775, we learn from Thomas Huehinson; the last Royal Governor of Massachusetts. Writing in his Diary, March 2, 1776, he states: "The refugees from America, scared from their ruined homes, had taken flight across the At-

lantic, and were pitched down upon England like rooks (crows) upon a corn field to see what grain they could pick up, but so numerous were the flocks becoming that the custodians of the granaries in the Old Country had great difficulty in finding a few grains each for all the hungry mouths."

Lorenza Sabine in his work, "Loyalist of the American Revolution," Vol. I., pp. 70 and 71, mentions the names of 4,542 Loyalists who fled to Canada, and states: "It may not be possible to ascertain the number of Loyalists who took up arms, but, from the best evidence I have been able to obtain, I conclude that there were at lowest computation, 25,000 Americans, who took up arms against their country and in aid of England." He also states: "At the time of Cornwallis' surrender, a portion of his army was composed of native Americans, and his Lordship evinced great anxiety for their protection." Wharton, Vol. I., p. 72, says that General Sir Henry Clinton reported to the English Ministers "there were in the King's service more American Loyalists than there were rebels in Washington's Army." Considering the foregoing facts, and many others equally convincing, showing the immense numbers of the Anglo-Saxon element in America, who, either fled the country, or fought on the side

of Great Britain, it is indeed strange, that the American people have been so long taught to believe that the Independence of America has been established mainly by the Anglo-Saxon Colonists. The white population then was only about three million, composed not only of English, but also of Irish, Scotch, Dutch, French, Germans and Swedes, and, among the fighting forces that achieved American liberty, were, some more, some less, of several European races.

#### IRISH NAMES ON THE MUSTER ROLLS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY!

Should anyone doubt the accuracy of the statement of General Lee, and the sworn statements of General Robertson, and ex-member of Congress Joseph Galloway before the British House of Commons relative to the one-half Irish in the Rebel Army; let him examine the names on the muster rolls of the Army and Navy, on file in the War Department. This document, containing the name, age, place of birth, etc., of each soldier, will prove that the testimony of these contemporary eye-witnesses was substantially correct. We again take pleasure in referring to the Historiographer, Michael J. O'Brien, in his admirable work, "A Hidden Phase of American History," wherein is contained a most detailed and accurate statement

on this important subject. As an example of how painstaking and accurate Mr. O'Brien's work is, we quote the following relative to South Carolina. In the "Charleston, South Carolina, Volunteer Company of Rangers," organized in September, 1775, and in Captain Heatley's Company of "South Carolina Rangers," organized about the same time, exactly one-half the names were Irish. In "Captain William McClaughlin's Company of the Collection (S. C.) Regiment of Foot" in 1775, forty-three per cent were Irish; in the second "Charleston Company of Foot," also recruited in 1775, the Irish proportion was forty per cent; and, between June and November, 1775, the Irish proportion of the entire "First Regiment of Provincial Troops of South Carolina" was forty per cent. In "Captain Purvis' Company of South Carolina Rangers, organized in 1775, fifty per cent of the men were Irish." And of Maryland, Mr. O'Brien states: "In Captain William Dorsey's Company of Maryland Artillery in 1778, the proportion of Irish names is fifty per cent; in Captain Thomas Ewing's Battalion of the 'Maryland Flying Camp' in 1776 there were eighty men, of whom thirty-six are recorded as 'born in Ireland,' or an Irish proportion of forty-five per cent; in 'a representative list of non-commissioned officers and soldiers' of the Sixth Maryland Regiment of the

Line in 1778, the Irish names are seventy-five per cent of the total; in a similar list of men raised for the Fifth Maryland Regiment in the same year, the Irish proportion is forty-five per cent, and in a later list of men of the same regiment, they are sixty per cent; in a 'Pay-roll of Captain Robert Harris' Company of the Sixth Maryland Regiment in 1776,' the Irish names are sixty per cent of the whole; in a 'List of Voluntary Enlistments for the Seventh Maryland Regiment on December 3, 1776,' sixty-seven per cent of the names are Irish, and in 'A Return of Recruits raised in Hartford County in 1780' exactly one-half of the names are Irish. Among enlistments in Baltimore, Cecil and Harford Counties in July, 1776, I find the following: The proportion of Irish names among those enrolled by Captain William Riley was seventy-five per cent; enrolled by Lieutenant Edward Tillard, seventy-five per cent; enrolled by Lieutenant Andrew Porter, seventy per cent; enrolled by Lieutenant Miles, sixty per cent; enrolled by Captain Robert Morrow, fifty per cent; enrolled by Ensign Lewis, forty-seven per cent; enrolled by Lieutenant Hall forty-five per cent; enrolled by Lieutenant Hollyday, forty-four per cent."

The foregoing is merely a small sample taken from only some of the records of South Carolina and Maryland, and may serve to give an

idea of the immensity of the muster rolls of all the Colonies; and in each Colony with few exceptions, the percentage of Irish is very large. After a most painstaking examination of these muster rolls, and, eliminating all doubtful names, or names not purely Irish, Mr. O'Brien has found 74,000 names, (a large army in those days) of men whose birthplace is given as Ireland, besides their very numerous descendants born in America. Some of the muster rolls do not give the place of birth, but the names plainly indicate their nationality, and, circumstances would also indicate they were native-born Irishmen. There are many thousands such Irish names, whose place of nativity is not given. The names of one thousand, five hundred officers of various ranks of Irish birth or descent, are on the muster rolls. Singling out just a few of the best known Irish names, there are among the non-commissioned officers and men, 314 Burks, 220 Connollys, 310 Connors, 241 Doughertys, 795 Kellys, 314 McCarthys, 590 Murphys, 450 O'Briens, 240 O'Neills, 279 Reillys, 321 Ryans and 385 Sullivans, besides the many thousands belonging to various other well-known Irish names. Among the one thousand five hundred officers, there were twenty-six Generals and Commanders of Brigades and Regiments; all either native-born Irish or of Irish descent. Those born in Ire-

land were, among others, Generals—James Hogan, John Greatedon, Richard Butler, Richard Montgomery, William Irvine, Edward Hand, William Thompson, William Maxwell, Andrew Lewis; Colonels—Robert Magaw, John Kelly, John Dooley, John Patton, Walter Stewart, John Shee, John Haslet, Thomas Proctor, John Fitzgerald, Hercules Mooney, Pierce Long, Stephen Moylan, John Nixon, Francis and John Barber, Ephraim Blaine, Charles Stewart, Thomas Dougan, Hercules Mulligan, and Major John Caldwell. Captains—John Dunlap, Edward O'Connor, James O'Hara, Michael Dwyer. And of Irish descent, Generals—James Moore, James and George Clinton, Joseph Reed, John Sullivan, Henry Knox, Anthony Wayne, and many others. The names of Commanders of the Navy, from Commodore Jack Barry, all the way down, who did even more daring and effective work for American liberty than the army, are too numerous to mention here. Washington chose for his Aides-de-Camp in succession, Joseph Reed, Joseph Casey, Stephen Moylan, Phillip Fitzgerald, and James McHenry. His great esteem for Sullivan, Montgomery, Hand, Butler, Irvine, Thompson, and Barry, was manifested on many occasions. No man in the army was closer or shared the confidence and esteem of the great Commander himself, more than his faithful aide-de-camp and secre-



tary, Colonel John Fitzgerald, and among the many who fought and died for the freedom of their adopted country, no one was more universally beloved and esteemed, or whose death was more deplored by Washington and Congress, than the brave and gentle, manly soldier, General Richard Montgomery. Ramsey wrote of him: "Being a sincere lover of liberty, he had engaged in the American cause from principle and quitted the enjoyments of an easy fortune and the highest domestic felicity to take an active share in the fatigues and dangers of a war instituted for the defense of a community of which he was an adopted member. His well-known character was almost equally esteemed by the friends and foes of the side which he had espoused. In America, he was celebrated as a martyr to the liberties of mankind; in Great Britain as a misguided man, sacrificing to what he supposed to be the rights of his country." One of the most striking figures in the Revolutionary Army was General Andrew Lewis, a native-born Irishman. He is described as "a man of tremendous size and great physical strength and agility and a form of the most exact symmetry. He looks like a genius of the forest, and the very ground seems to tremble under him as he walks." During the entire war he was the "true friend and companion of Washington," who

considered him one of the foremost military officers in the service.

It is also an historical fact, that prior to his own appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the army, Washington recommended General Lewis to Congress, for that most important and responsible post. His four brothers were officers in the Colonial and Revolutionary armies. One of them, Colonel Charles Lewis was known as the "idol of the army." During the Revolutionary War, an event occurred which discloses the close attachment and deep affection existing between Washington and his secretary, Colonel Fitzgerald. At the battle of Princeton, when Washington was in imminent peril of his life, from the unexpected appearance of a large British force, before which, the Americans, lacking bayonets, for a moment hesitated to advance. Washington, disdaining danger, rallied his men, and dashed to the front on his white charger, just as both lines fired a volley. The thrilling event is thus described by Griffin in his "Researches": "The discomfited Americans rallied on the instant, formed into line and the enemy halted, and dressed their lines; the American chief is between the adverse hosts, as though a target for both. The arms of both lines are leveled. Can escape be possible? Fitzgerald, horror-struck at the danger of his beloved Commander, dropped the reins on his

horse's neck, drew his hat over his face, that he might not see him die! A roar of musketry succeeds, and then a shout!! The aide-de-camp ventures to raise his eyes. O Glorious sight! The enemy are broken and flying, while dimly amidst the glimpses of smoke is seen the chief, alive, unharmed, and without a wound, waving his hat and cheering his comrades to the pursuit. Colonel Fitzgerald, celebrated as the finest horseman of the American army, now dashed the rowels into his charger's flanks, and, heedless of dead or dying in his way, flew to the aid of the Chief, exclaiming: 'Thank God! Your Excellency is safe.' The favorite aide, a gallant and warm-hearted son of Erin, a man of thews and sinews, 'albeit unused to the melting mood,' gave loose rein to his feelings, and wept like a child for joy: Washington, ever calm amidst scenes of the greatest excitement, affectionately grasped the hand of his aide, and then ordered: 'Away, dear Colonel, bring up the troops, the day is our own.' "

On another occasion, Washington was saved from capture, and possible assassination by the heroic Irishman, Colonel Hercules Mulligan, who was "Confidential Correspondent to the Commander-in-Chief," concerning the movements and intentions of the enemy forces. The incident is related by John C. Hamilton in his "History of the Republic of the United States,"

Vol. I., p. 527. After referring to an attempt to seize Governor Livingston of New Jersey, in January, 1779, Hamilton states: "A similar design was formed on the person of Washington. He had appointed to meet some officers at a designated place. Information was given by a female in the Tory interest and the necessary arrangements were made to seize him, but timely intelligence frustrated the attempt. A partisan officer, a native of New York, called at the shop of Mulligan late in the evening to obtain a watch coat. The late hour awakened curiosity, and after some inquiries, the officer tauntingly boasted, that, before another day they would have the rebel General in their hands. This staunch patriot, as soon as the officer left him, hastened unobserved to the wharf and dispatched a billet by a negro, giving information of the design." Winthrop in his "Life of Major John Andre," p. 411, also states that Hercules Mulligan "saved Washington's life." Colonel Mulligan is known to have, on many occasions, furnished Washington with "most important military intelligence," and on the morning of Evacuation Day, November 25, 1783, when the American army triumphantly entered New York, "Washington showed his appreciation and respect for Mr. Mulligan by taking his first breakfast with him.

## CHAPTER VII.

### BRAVERY OF IRISH SOLDIERS

But it is not numbers alone, as much as discipline, bravery and endurance, that count on the field of battle. That the Irish are such, few will gainsay. In ancient times, the Irish soldiers were the only ones the unconquerable Romans feared to encounter. Although they conquered and occupied the neighboring island of Britain, they never dared to invade Ireland. Neill of the Nine hostages, ancestor of the great O'Neills, carried the terror of his arms far beyond the seas of Ireland. Recall the bravery of the Irish soldiers under the leadership of the O'Neills and O'Donnells. Follow them on the Continent, when,

“Exiled in those Penal days,  
Their banners over Europe blaze.”

Who has not heard of the valorous deeds, and heroic exploits of the Irish Brigade on the battlefields of Europe? For a hundred years that magnificent army made the Irish name synonymous with heroism and fidelity. Four hundred and eighty thousand of them died in the service of France alone. Over their myriad graves, on many a battlefield in France, Spain, Austria, Italy and Flanders, the last bugle

taps were sounded, and the cannon pealed the solemn tones of the soldier's requiem. A large percentage of the French troops sent with Lafayette to assist in the American Revolution, belonged to this Irish Brigade, and were commanded by Dillon, Walsh, and O'Brien. In the French armies, the Irish Brigade always claimed the privilege of being the first to march against the English in all countries, and the Irish flag always blazed in the vanguard of victory. Many instances of Irish bravery during the Revolutionary war might be given did space permit. Who has not heard of Colonel Proctor's Irish Artillery, one of the most daring and formidable units in the army? Proctor hailed from County Longford, Ireland, and "next to General Knox, was the most distinguished artillery officer in the Revolution." Major Andre wrote of him:

"Sons of distant Delaware,  
And still remoter Shannon,  
And Major Lee with honors rare,  
And Proctor with his cannon."

The bravery of Morgan's celebrated Rifle Corps, who wore upon their breasts the motto, "Liberty or Death," is well known to every school boy. Lossing in his "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution," says of them: "These men attracted much attention, and on account of their sure and deadly aim they became the

terror of the British. Wonderful stories of their exploits went to England, and, one of the riflemen, who was carried there a prisoner, was gazed at as a great curiosity." Washington, in a letter to Governor Clinton, August 16, 1777, said: "They are all chosen men, selected from the army at large; well acquainted with the use of rifles and the mode of fighting which is necessary to make them a good counterpoise to the Indians; and they have distinguished themselves on a variety of occasions since the formation of the corps, in skirmishes with the enemy. I expect the most eminent service from them, and I shall be mistaken if their presence does not go far towards producing a general deserting among the savages." Alexander Hamilton, in one of his letters to Robert R. Livingston, August 18, 1777, wrote: "I expect much of them. They are a picked corps, well used to rifles and to wood fights, commanded by officers of distinguished bravery, and have been very serviceable in frequent skirmishes with the enemy. I dare say these people will soon chastise the forwardness of the Indians, and I should not be surprised if, after a little time, they make them desert their British friends. Their known inconstancy and want of perseverance give great reasons to hope a few drubbings will exceedingly discourage them (the Indians) and send the greatest part

of them home and from every account, I am led to believe our misfortunes are greatly owing to a panic dread of the Indians. If this is so, the presence of Morgan's Corps will not fail



COMMODORE JOHN BARRY

to have the most happy effect. It would be well to propagate through the country and army such ideas of this corps as will tend to revive the spirits of both inhabitants and soldiers."



The daring deed of Jeremiah O'Brien and his four brothers will live as long as written history is read. To them belong the distinction of having fought and won the first naval battle of the Revolution, and the first to haul down the British flag on the sea. In this naval battle in Machias Bay, which Cooper named, "The Lexington of the Seas" from the first land battle fought at Lexington, April 19, 1775; the two large store-ships *Margaretta* and *Tapnaquish* were captured,

"And thus was fought the battle, that helped  
to make us free,  
The first fought by America, for freedom of  
the sea!"

Perhaps, there is no name better known in American history than that of the Wexford man, Commodore John Barry, "Father of the American Navy." John O'Kane Murray wrote of him, "A truer, braver man, perhaps, never lived. He not only founded our Navy, fought and won its early battles, and died at the head of the service, but also trained the skillful commanders who increased its fame, Murray, Decatur, Dale and Stewart."

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"There are gallant hearts whose glory  
Columbia loves to name,  
Whose deeds shall live in story  
And everlasting fame.  
But never yet one braver,

Our starry banner bore,  
Than saucy old Jack Barry;  
The Irish Commodore."

## THE PENNSYLVANIA LINE, KNOWN AS THE LINE OF IRELAND

The Pennsylvania Line, commanded by General Anthony Wayne, comprised about twenty thousand men, mostly Irish. It is generally admitted to be one of the most formidable forces in the American army. Its shibboleth was, "They served everywhere and surrendered nowhere." It was the regiment of this line, commanded by Colonels Hand, Magaw, Shea, and Haslett, all native-born Irishmen that were detailed by Washington himself, to cover the retreat of the American army, when disastrously defeated at Long Island, August 28, 1776. In the Pennsylvania Archives, Vol. II., P. 612, Lieutenant-Colonel Chambers states: "The Pennsylvania troops were done great honour by being chosen the Corps-de-reserve to cover the retreat. The regiments of Colonels Hands, Magaw, Shea and Haslett were detailed for that purpose." General Henry Lee, "Light Horse Harry Lee" in his memoirs of the war, Vol. II., p. 203, said of them and their general: "Wayne had a constitutional attachment to the

decision of the sword and this cast of character had acquired strength from indulgence as well as from the native temper of the troops he commanded. They are known by the designation of the Line of Pennsylvania, whereas they might have been with more propriety known as 'The Line of Ireland.' Bold and daring, they were impatient and refractory



STORMING OF STONY POINT

and would always prefer an appeal to the bayonet to a toilsome march."

The General and his soldiers were singularly fitted for close and stubborn action, "hand to hand, in the centre of the army." Perhaps there is no greater test of physical endurance or grim determination, than long and intense

suffering from cold, hunger, and nakedness, with no prospect of relief. Such was the condition of the Pennsylvania Line, or "Line of Ireland," during the winter of 1780-81, when "nakedness and famine were their daily companions."

The following graphic account by Matthew Carey given in the 10th edition of the "Olive Branch", Philadelphia, Pa., will show the heroic mettle of these splendid soldiers. "During the American Revolution a band of Irishmen were embodied to avenge, in the country of their adoption, the injuries of the country of their birth. They formed the major part of the celebrated Pennsylvania Line. They fought and bled for the United States. Many of them sealed their attachment with their lives. Their adopted country was shamefully ungrateful. The wealthy, the indolent, and the luxurious for whom they fought, were rioting in all the comforts and superfluities of life. Their defenders were literally half-starved and half-naked. Their shoeless feet marked with blood their tracks on the highway. They bore their grievances patiently. They at length murmured. They remonstrated. They implored a supply of the necessities of life, but in vain. A deaf ear was turned to their complaints. They felt indignant at the cold neglect; at the ingratitude of that country, for which so many of

their companions in arms had expired on the crimsoned field of battle. They held arms in their hands, they had reached the boundary line beyond which forbearance and submission became meanness and pussillanimity. As all appeals to the gratitude, the justice and generosity of the country had proved unavailing, they determined to try another course. They appealed to its fears. They mutinied, they demanded, with energy, that redress for which they had before supplicated. It was a noble deed; I hope in all similar cases similar measures will be pursued. The intelligence was carried to the British camp. It there spread joy and gladness. Lord Howe hoped a period had arrived to the Rebellion," as it would have termed. There was a glorious opportunity of crushing the half-formed embryo of the Republic. He counted largely on the indignation and on the resentment of the natives of the Emerald Isle. He knew the irascibility of their tempers. He calculated on the diminution of the strength of the "rebels" and the accession to the numbers of the royal army. Messengers were dispatched to the mutineers. They had *carte blanche*. They were to allure the poor Hibernians to return, like prodigal children, from feeding on husks, to the plentiful fold of their royal master. Liberality itself presided over his offers. Abundant sup-

plies of provisions, comfortable clothing to their heart's desire, all arrears of pay, bounties and pardon for past offenses were offered. There was, however, no hesitation among the poor, neglected warriors. They refused to renounce poverty, nakedness, suffering and ill-



FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS

gratitude. The splendid temptations held out were in vain. There was no Judas, no Arnold there. They seized the tempters. They tramped on their shining ore. They sent them to their General's tent. The miserable wretches paid their forfeited lives for attempting to seduce a band of ragged, forlorn and deserted, but illustrious heroes. We prate about Roman,

about Grecian patriotism. One half of it is false. In the other half there is nothing that excels this noble trait, which is worthy of the pencil of a West or a Trumbull." General Rochambeau in his Memoirs, referring to the same incident states; "I should have mentioned a most extraordinary trait of patriotism in these times of rebellion. General Clinton, the Commandant at New York, within whose reach these men had to pass, sent off emissaries to beg them to join the American refugees, who were serving in his army, offering at the same time to pay the arrears which were due them. The sergeant, who commanded them exclaimed; "Comrades, he takes us for traitors, but we are brave men, who demand justice of our country." He hanged the spies sent by Clinton, and proceeded on.

#### SCANT MENTION IN AMERICAN HISTORY

American history is almost entirely silent about this renowned corps, and many others of the same nationality. Little is heard of the bravery of Captain John Brady, scout and frontiersman of the American army; or Timothy Murphy, the hero of Saratoga; or Major John Kelly, who saved the American troops from capture by destroying the bridge at Stony Brook, or Lieutenant James Gibbons,

who led the forlorn hope at the storming of Stony Point; or Captain William O'Neill and his Trojan heroes, who rolled back the British force at the battle of the Brandywine, or the heroic defenders of the breastwork at Bunker Hill, known as the "rail fence", whose officers were, Colonel Daniel Moore, Major John Goff, Captain Thomas McLaughlin, and Lieutenant John Patten, all natives of Ireland, etc., etc., etc. On many battle fields throughout the Revolution, those splendid Irish heroes displayed the martial prowess of their race, and won for the American army laurels of victory, as glorious as the Irish Brigade had won for the arms of France. Their serried ranks were thinned as the war ended; for many of these brave fellows made the supreme sacrifice for American liberty. Doubtless, in their death struggle, they thought of the "Old Land", and through their parched lips, uttered the dying words of the immortal Sarsfield on Landen's battlefield: "Oh! that this were for Ireland."



## CHAPTER VIII

### COWARDICE DISPLAYED BY THE NEW ENGLAND TROOPS

On the other hand it is remarkable the amount of praise given to the New England troops in the Revolutionary war. In fact, so much publicity is given them, that one would imagine that to them was due the Independence of America. But the record of these very troops proves to the contrary. General Montgomery in a letter to Washington, October 5, 1775, states: "The New Englanders are the worst stuff imaginable for soldiers. They are homesick. Their regiments are melted away, and yet not a man dead of any distemper. There is such an equality among them, that the officers have no authority, and there are very few among them in whose spirit I have any confidence. The privates are all generals, but not soldiers, and so jealous, that it is impossible, though a man risk his person, to escape the imputation of treachery. I don't see amongst them that zealous attachment to the cause I flattered myself with: but, indeed, they are homesick." In reply to Montgomery's letter, Washington wrote January 31, 1776 as follows: "The account given of the behaviour of the men under General Montgomery is exactly con-

sonant to the opinion I have formed of these people, and such as they will exhibit abundant proof in similar cases whenever called upon. Place them behind a parapet, a breast work, stone wall or anything that will afford shelter, and from their knowledge of a fire-lock they will give a good account of the enemy. But, I am as well convinced they will not march boldly up to a work or stand exposed in a plain." Lecky, in his "History of the American Revolution", pp. 215-216, says: "They were turbulent, insubordinate and half trained, and they had enlisted for so short a period and were so unwilling to renew their contract, that it was necessary to press on operations as quickly as possible. Washington, in his letter to General Reed, November 28, 1775, again says of these troops: "Such dearth of public spirit, such want of virtue, such stock-jobbing and fertility in all the low arts to obtain advantages of one kind or another, that I never before saw and pray God's mercy that I may never be witness to again. Such mercenary spirit prevades the whole that I should not be at all surprised at any disaster that may happen. Could I have foreseen what I have experienced and am likely to experience, no consideration upon earth should have induced me to accept this command." (Washington's Works, Vol. III.) In another letter he states:

“No troops were ever better provided or better paid, yet their backwardness to enlist for another year is amazing. It grieves me to see so little of that patriotic spirit which I was taught to believe was characteristic of this people.” Again, Washington, writing to Lund Washington, August 20, 1775, about the New England troops, states: “The people of this government have obtained a character which they by no means deserved. Their officers, generally speaking, are the most indifferent kind of people I ever saw. I have already broke one Colonel and five Captains for cowardice or for drawing more pay and provisions than they had men in their companies; there are two more Colonels now under arrest for the same offences; in short, they are by no means such troops in any respect as you are led to believe of them from the accounts which are published, but I need not make myself enemies among them by this declaration, although it is consistent with truth. I dare say the men would fight very well, if properly officered, although they are exceedingly dirty and nasty people.” Lecky (*History of American Revolution*, p. 228) again states: “The term of enlistment of the Connecticut troops expired December, 1775, and the whole body amounting to some five thousand men, positively refused to re-enlist, even though it was vainly represented to them

that their desertation threatened to bring absolute ruin to the American cause." These authentic statements of Washington, Montgomery and others, abundantly show, that these boasted New England troops were too cowardly, craven and utterly effeminate to achieve liberty for themselves, or anybody else. But, mention of these facts is carefully omitted in our United States School Histories. What a contrast to the splendid martial prowess and valor displayed by the "Line of Ireland." "They required no protection of breast-works or stone wall to prop up their courage. They were always ready and eager for close and stubborn action, hand to hand, in the center of the army."

What more dashing and daring warrior ever fought a battle, than the Cork man, General Stephen Moylan, aide-de-camp of Washington, and Commissary General of the army? In almost every severe and critical action of the war, the fearless Moylan with his famous "Dragoons" was there. William Collins, the writer, says of him: "Moylan, the Murat of the Revolutionary army, served in every battle in which Washington was engaged, from Boston to Virginia. He was Colonel of a troop of horse in the Irish Brigade, or, Pennsylvania Liners; and on many an occasion, by a dashing and desperate charge, plucked victory from the

flag of the Briton, and hurled upon his ranks disaster and defeat. He was never captured though leader of a hundred raids, and forays, and participator in a score of pitched battles. He lived to see the flag of his adopted country wave in triumph over the enemies of his race."

At the close of the war he ranked a full Brigadier-General, and during the remainder of his life was familiarly known as General Moylan. He was one of the founders of the Hibernian Society and President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Philadelphia, of which Washington was a member. Besides the Catholic Bishop of Cork, General Moylan had three other brothers who took an active part in the establishment of our Republic. He died in Philadelphia on April 11, 1811, and his hallowed remains were interred in St. Mary's Cemetery."

As a man, a patriot, a soldier and a Catholic", writes John O'Kane Murray, "General Moylan was equally worthy of our admiration. To Poland and to Ireland the American Revolution was indebted for its two most brilliant cavalry commanders. The memories of the gallant Pulaski and the fearless Moylan will be kept green as long as the thrilling story of the Revolution will form a chapter in world's history."

"In the land they loved, they have sunk to rest,  
And their fame burns bright to each freeman's  
-breast."

The Irish eagerly rallied to and bravely fought under the standard of Washington in nearly all the regiments throughout the different Colonies. In the district of Maine, Colonel John Allen commanded a body of troops known as the "Irish Volunteers," whose special and perilous post was the defense of the frontier against the hostile Indians, and the English of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. During 1777 and 1778, these Irish Volunteers were stationed at Machias and aided in repelling the British troops in their attack on that town in August 1777.

Virginia, as we have seen, was largely settled by the Irish, and here vast numbers joined the American forces. They were, as the historian says, "a rough and ready element." Their lives were mostly engaged in the hard task of clearing and cultivating the wild country and defending their homes against the wilder and more elusive Indians. They were therefore, just the right kind for guerilla warfare and the kind of men, whom their officers invariably depended upon to stand against unfavorable odds. In referring to the indifference of the native Virginians to enlist in the American army, General Lee writing to Edmond Pendleton, member of Congress, May 25, 1776, stated:

"I do not believe that many of the native Virginians will offer themselves; the Irish I

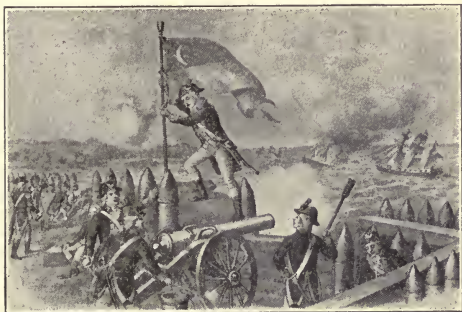
am persuaded will enlist in crowds." The early Irish settlers in Virginia were especially numerous in Augusta, Rockbridge and Fincastle Counties, and through the Shenandoah Valley. From this section came the best armed and best-trained men in the State. Washington, who was familiar with both the locality and the inhabitants said on one occasion when hard pressed by the enemy: "Place me in Rockbridge County, and I will get men enough to save the Revolution." The regiments from this section of Virginia were known as the "Irish Line", and their fighting qualities were well tested by a splendid company of Scotch Highlanders, at the battle of Guilford Court House, March 16, 1781. In Scheneek's "History of the Invasion of Carolina by Cornwallis" is published a letter from Captain Dugald Stuart, Commander of the Scotch Highlanders which describes the result of the battle as follows: "In the advance we received a very deadly fire from the Irish Line of the American Army composed of their marksmen, lying on the ground behind a rail fence. One half the Highlanders dropped on the spot. There ought to be a very large tumulus on that spot where our men were buried."

In South Carolina, between 1730 and 1740 many large colonies from Ireland settled in Williamsburg Township between the Santee and Pedee Rivers. When the Revolution broke

out they rallied to the American cause almost to a man. Lossing in his "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution" calls the Williamsburg Township, "a hot-bed of rebellion," and Lord Cornwallis writing to Sir Henry Clinton, December 3, 1780, stated: "There is scarcely an inhabitant between the Pedee and Santee that is not in arms against us." Lossing in the authority above quoted, states about these people as follows: "Far removed from the political power they had been taught to reverence, they soon became alienated. They felt neither the favors nor the oppressions of Government, and in the free wilderness their minds and hearts became schooled in that sturdy independence which developed bold and energetic action when the Revolution broke out." John Rutledge the County Leitrim Irishman, was at this time Governor of South Carolina and warmly espoused the cause of American Independence. He commissioned the sturdy soldier, Francis Marion, Brigadier-General, and it was amongst this fine military material that Marion recruited his famous South Carolina Regiment in 1775. W. Gilmore Simms in his "Life of General Francis Marion" p. 60, also referring to the people of Williamsburg Township states; "The people of Williamsburg by whom Marion was summoned from the camp of Gates, were sprung generally from Irish parentage. They



inherited, in common with all the descendants of the Irish in America, a hearty detestation of the English name and authority. This feeling rendered them excellent patriots and daring soldiers wherever the British Lion was the subject of hostility. Here Marion was already a favorite, and he succeeded beyond his expectations and was soon enabled to complete the



SERGEANT JASPER RECOVERING THE FLAG  
AT CHARLESTON

full number of his companies. Another circumstance, apart from his personal popularity, facilitated his object. Some of the settlements into which they penetrated were originally founded by the Irish. The bitter heritage of hate to the English which they brought with

them to America was transmitted with undiminished fervor to their descendants. It was easy to show that the power which had trampled upon the affections of their fathers and tyrannized over their rights in the old world, was aiming at the same object in the case of their children in the new. As one removed only from the exiled and suffering generation, the sons had as lively a recollection of the tyrannies of Britain as if the experience had been immediately their own. To this cause our recruiting officers owed some of their success in the present expedition.

Some of the bravest fellows in the Second Regiment were picked up on this occasion. It was the spirit which they brought and to which the genius of Marion gave lively exercise, that imparted a peculiar vitality at all times to their brigade." General Peter Horry, one of Marion's officers in referring to this Irish Regiment, also states: "The laurels of this Second Regiment can never fade. The destructive fire of their guns gave glorious proof that they leveled their pieces like men who wished every shot to tell. They all fought like veterans, but the behaviour of some was gallant beyond compare, and the humble names of Jasper and McDonald shall be remembered when those of proud kings shall be forgotten." At the siege of Savannah in September, 1779 Marion's famous brigade took

an active part. It was here that the heroic County Roscommon Irishman, Sergeant William Jasper above referred to, died nobly, grasping the banner presented to his regiment at Fort Moultrie.

In June, 1776, the English fleet appeared off Charleston Harbor, where Colonel Moultrie with his brave troops had built a fort on Sul-



THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH

livan's Island. The British attacked with land forces, while their ships opened a heavy bombardment on the fort. The British troops were utterly defeated and their ships so badly disabled that only one escaped unharmed. During this dreadful conflict the American flag shaft was broken and fell outside the breastworks.

Immediately Sergeant Jasper leaped over the walls, and fearless of imminent danger from flying bullets seized the fallen standard and triumphantly re-planted it upon the ramparts. This incident is written in American history as one of the most heroic in the Revolution. This brave action has a counterpart only in the Irish heroine of the Revolution, Mary Hayes, or, as she is generally called "Molly Pitcher", wife of John Hayes, Cannonier in Proctor's artillery. At the battle of Monmouth, this artilleryman was shot at his post. His brave wife, who had seen him fall, and heard the Commander order the cannon removed from the field, instantly dropped the pitcher of water she was carrying to her husband "ran to the cannon seized the rammer, and with skill and courage performed her husband's duty." The soldiers always afterwards called her "Major Molly." After the battle she was presented to Washington and Congress commissioned her to the rank of Sergeant with half-pay for life. In referring to the siege of Savannah, Gilmore Simms in his "Life of General Marion", states: "The slaughter for so brief an engagement had been terrible amounting to 1,100 men, 637 French and 457 Americans. Of the former the Irish Brigade (of France) and of the latter, the Second South Carolina Regiment particularly distinguished themselves and suffered the most."

Not only in Williamsburg Township, but in many other parts of South Carolina, large numbers of Irish enrolled in the American army. From the York and Chester districts where many early Irish families had settled, came some of the very best and bravest volunteers. Here, General Edward Lacey, organized a large force who were "famous for their accuracy with the rifle." The following tribute to the Irish in that district is given by Moore, in his "Life of General Lacey": "In the Chester District of South Carolina, Lacey organized companies and battalions as the fortunes of war demanded and after the manner of partisan leaders, with which he annoyed the Tories greatly, taking many of them prisoners. Of these there were a few in his neighborhood, but not among the Irish. To their eternal honor let it be spoken, none of the New York or Chester Irish were Tories, and, but few of them took British protection." Judge John Belton O'Neill, in his "History of Newberry, South Carolina, makes this statement relative to the Colonial Irish: "The Irish were generally good Whigs, almost from necessity. They had left oppression in their own country and therefore knew the value of liberty. They had long known our enemies, the British, and entertained for them a hereditary hatred—a hatred arising out of long political oppression, and made more intense by differences of disposition, man-

ners, race and religion." An Irishman could not be a bloody Tory without doing violence to the generous, merciful impulses of his nature, and all his political antecedents, associations and prejudices—in other words, without ceasing to be an Irishman. It has been already shown how many large colonies from all parts of Ireland, settled long before the Revolution, not only in Pennsylvania, but also in New York, Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Maryland and all through the thirteen Colonies, and from each one, the Irish immediately rallied to the American cause with the same intense ardor, the same unswerving loyalty, the same grim determination and matchless bravery, as those already mentioned.

In this short review it is impossible to follow them through their splendid military career all through the Revolution. We can only with pleasure quote Mr. O'Brien's "Hidden Phases of American History," p. 210, wherein he says: "I find those Irish soldiers of the Revolution among the contingents that came from nearly every section of the Colonies. From the pine forests of Maine, the granite hills of New Hampshire and down the green mountain slopes of Vermont, Irish soldiers flocked to the standard of Washington. Even little Rhode Island furnished a large quota of Irish soldiers, and,

strange to say, so also did Massachusetts of the Puritans and Connecticut of "Blue Laws." From the staid old Dutch provinces of New York and New Jersey came many "Dutchmen", bearing such significant names as "Kelly, Burke and Shea." Maryland furnished several thousand Irish soldiers, and from the valleys of Virginia, the mountains of the Carolinas and from far out on the frontiers of Pennsylvania, Georgia and Tennessee, Irishmen and their sons, at the very outset of the struggle answered the clarion call of patriotism and came to fight, as Irishmen knew how to fight, to make this country a free and independent nation. Yet some of the historians of the time have suppressed their story, and have led the world to believe that the Irish had an insignificant part in this glorious work." It is remarkable how far even an historian may wander from "the straight and narrow path" and either by insufficient knowledge or prejudice; pervert, warp and distort facts of history. Some historians, like Sir Otto Trevelyan, member of the British cabinet, and others, since they cannot deny the great part taken by Irishmen in the Revolutionary war, yet, in order to unjustly deprive them as much as possible of the credit due to them, make the false and dishonest statement that they were from Ulster and were what are erroneously called Scotch-

Irish. The absurdity of any such statement is utterly and completely refuted by the Harbor and Custom House records of New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia and other American sea-ports in which are registered the arrivals of vessels with emigrants not only from Ulster, but also from every harbor in Ireland. If it were only the Irish from Ulster who fought in the Revolution, it is strange they did not have enough sense to embark near home, either from Belfast, Derry, Newry, Coleraine, Larne, or Carrickfergus, but travel in those days mostly on foot with their families, bag and baggage all the long way to Cork, Limerick, Dublin, Waterford, Galway or Sligo. It would be very interesting if these historians informed us what reasons those Ulster Scotch-Irish had for traveling so far and with such inconvenience. Was it love for the "Green Isle", the "Land of the Saints and Scholars", that induced them to linger long and feast their eyes upon the magic charms of that fair land, ere they bid it perhaps an eternal adieu? Or was it that their feet might tread as much of its sacred soil as possible before leaving? Or was it perhaps that by such long hikes over hill and hollow they might develop wind and muscular strength for the still longer journey across the ocean? It is really too bad, Mr. Trevelyan and other eminent historians have left us in such blissful ignor-



ance of such important information. The Scotch-Irish myth is also refuted by a glance at the muster rolls of the Army and Navy, which abounds with real Irish names, familiar especially in the East, South and West of Ireland. Another false and malicious statement made by Trevelyan and others is, that there were no Irish Catholics in the Revolutionary war. That those who fought, were mostly Scotch-Irish, Presbyterians. Such extravagantly false statements only serve to confute themselves. Many Irish Presbyterians did fight, and bravely too, in the Revolution. They fought and died just as bravely as did their Irish Catholic brethren. They were driven from Ireland by the same religious and political oppression that drove away the Catholics, and they cherished the same love of liberty and intense and bitter hatred against England. They were the same kind of Presbyterians that fought and died for Irish freedom, side by side with their Catholic fellow countrymen in 1798. They were the same kind of Presbyterians that aided Daniel O'Connell to gain Catholic Emancipation in 1829. But, Sir George Otto Trevelyan and Company forgot to inform us when the 214 Burks, the 220 Connellys, the 310 Conners, the 241 Doughertys, the 679 Kellys, the 314 McCartys, the 486 Murphys, the 236 O'Briens, the 240 O'Neills, the 279 Rileys, the 321 Ryans, or the

208 Sullivans, whose names are still to be found on the muster rolls of Washington's army, besides an equally large number belonging to various other well known Irish Catholic names, such as Brogan, Brady, Boyle, Bulger, Coogan, Carroll, Collins, Cooney, Conway, Cunningham, Dillon, Doyle, Dougherty, Downey and so on, throughout the alphabet. These historians have



BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL

forgotten to tell us when all these "turned over" to be Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. Over two hundred men of the battalions that fought under Prescott and Stark at the battle of Bunker Hill alone, bore the distinctively Scotch Irish Presbyterian name of "Patrick." The regiments of the Irish Brigade under Dillon.

Walsh and O'Brien sent over from France with LaFayette must also have been Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. But we have several quite respectable contemporary authorities, who beg leave to differ with Mr. Trevelyan and Company regarding this Presbyterian question. George Washington Park Curtis, the adopted son of the Commander in Chief of the American army, George Washington himself—certainly was in a position to know well the racial and religious composition of the American army. The following is his statement on the subject: "The aid we received from Irish Catholics in the struggle for independence was essential to our ultimate success. In the War of Independence, Ireland furnished one hundred men to every single man furnished by any other foreign nation! Let America bear eternal gratitude to Irishmen." The foregoing statement is taken from the Shea "Collection," Riggs Library, Georgetown College. From the same authority we again quote Mr. Curtis relative to Colonel Smallwood's Maryland Regiment, about one half of which were Irish. "This famed regiment, composed of the flower of Maryland youth, both Catholic and Protestant, was recruited principally in the Lower Counties and the Eastern Shore. It was the Tenth Legion of the American army, that marched into Philadelphia in 1776, eleven hundred strong, and was cut to pieces at the battle of Long Island, gal-

lantly struggling for victory against an overwhelming foe, and at the close of the memorable campaign of 1776, at the battle of Princeton, mustered sixty men, commanded by Governor Stone, then a Captain; the prison ship and the



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grave had all the rest." J. F. Smith in his book "A Tour in the United States" (Vol. II) writing of the western shore of Maryland states: "By far the greatest number of Roman Catholics are on the Western shore, and what is very

surprising, it was also the most violently rebellious and disaffected in the Revolution." Dr. John G. Shea, in his "Life of General Reed" (Vol. I.) states: "The Catholics from Maine to Georgia, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with their clergy, at once took sides earnestly and heartily in the national cause. There were no Tories, no falterers, and final deserters among them; none to shout for Congress while they carefully carried a British protection for emergencies. The Catholics were to a man staunch and true, which can be said of none of the sects; for the Methodists, following the course of their founder, Wesley, were all on the Tory side, and nearly every other denomination was divided. Catholics bore their part bravely; and stood by the cause sturdily when men like Arnold made their Protestantism a pretext for deserting the cause." The name of Carroll is one of the most eminent in American history. It shines equally in the annals of Church and State. The wealthiest and in many respects the ablest and purest patriot among the signers of the Declaration of Independence was the Catholic Charles Carroll of Carrollton, grandson of Charles Carroll of Kings County, Ireland. "There go millions," remarked Ben Franklin, as Carroll signed the immortal document of Declaration. "No", said others, "There are several Charles Carrolls; he cannot be iden-

tified." Mr. Carroll on hearing the remark, immediately added to his name the words: "Of Carrollton," saying: "They cannot mistake me now."

"Oh! next to our glorious rebel chief,  
And next on the page of fame,  
A Tower of strength in bold relief  
Stands Charles Carroll's name."

Right Rev. John Carroll, Bishop of Baltimore in a letter to Mathew Carey of Philadelphia, dated January 30, 1789, stated in referring to the "liberal treatment of Roman Catholics in the United States": "They contributed in proportion to their numbers, equally at least with every other denomination, to the establishment of independence and ran every risk in common with them." Again Bishop Carroll states: "The American army swarms with Roman Catholic soldiers and they would have been justified had they withdrawn themselves from the defence of a State which treated them with so much cruelty and injustice and which they then covered from the depredations of the British Army. But their patriotism was too disinterested to hearken to the first impulse of even just resentment." The great Archbishop Martin J. Spalding, in his "Miscellanea" says: "Can Americans forget that the Irish were the first people in Europe to sympathize with us, and that this generous sympathy and the aid Irish

men subsequently afforded us were alleged by the British Court as reasons why the petitions of Ireland for political and religious enfranchisement should be rejected?" General Washington's "Life Guard", the most choice and select body of men in the entire army, was composed largely of Catholics. The soldiers of this famous corps were selected especially with reference to their physical, moral and intellectual character. It was regarded a great honor and special distinction to belong to the "Guard of the Commander-in-Chief." Among them are the Catholic names of Charles Dougherty, James Hughes, Denis Moriarity, William Hennessy, Jeremiah Driscoll, S. Dailey, John Fineh, Thomas Gillen and others. On March 15, 1790, an address signed by Rev. John Carroll, Daniel Carroll, Dominick Lynch and Thomas Fitzsimmons, "on behalf of the Roman Catholics of the United States" was presented to Washington, to which he replied as follows: "I hope ever to see America among the foremost nations in examples of justice and liberality. And I presume that your fellow-citizens will not forget the patriotic part which you took in the accomplishment of the Revolution and the establishment of their government, or the important assistance which they received from a nation in which the Roman Catholic faith is professed." The object of citing here

the foregoing quotations is not for the purpose of exhibiting the large part taken by Catholics in the Revolution, but merely to show how false, irrational and absurd, are the statements made by Trevelyan and other historians. The sinister motives of such men have only to be mentioned and exposed to be despised. They have not scrupled to stifle truth in obedience to the dictates of pretended ignorance or half-concealed bigotry. A history that intentionally conceals or perverts the truth thereby misleading the public mind, by teaching falsehoods, is far worse than a dangerous disease and should be suppressed and destroyed. The American Revolution was not fought for religious or denominational principles, but for the principles and rights of national independence for all. Our American Statesmen and soldiers may have had different religious beliefs, but in the Senate and on the battlefield, they were a unit against intolerance and oppression, and for individual liberty and national freedom. There is no reason why the Catholic names of Carroll, Barry, Moylan, Sullivan, Fitzsimmons, Burke, O'Brien, LaFayette, DeGrasse, Rochambeau, Pulaski and Kosciusko, should not live side by side with those of Washington, Jefferson, Franklin, Adams, Henry and Hancock, in the glorious and immortal story of the Revolution and its many hard-fought battlefields.



From what has been already shown by proofs taken from exact records and unquestionable authorities, it is evident that a very large percentage of the early Colonial inhabitants were native-born Irish and their descendants. Many emigrants came from Ireland and settled in the colonies over a century before the Revolution. The following census record will show the relative proportion of all the white inhabitants of the Colonies at the close of the Revolution; Total white population of the thirteen Colonies at the close of the Revolutionary war was 3,172,000. Relative proportion of the constituent elements in the Colonial population:

Celtic (Irish, Scotch, Welsh, French, etc.) .....	1,903,200
Irish separately .....	1,141,920
Scotch, Welsh, French, etc. ....	761,280
Anglo-Saxon .....	841,800
Dutch and Scandinavians .....	427,000

Nothing establishes the exact certainty of facts better than the plain figures of a census record. Here we see that at the close of the Revolution, there were in the Colonies 1,141,920 Irish inhabitants and 841,800 Anglo-Saxons; making a plurality of Irish over Anglo-Saxons of 300,120. When we consider the vast numbers of Irish that were killed during the war, we have a fair estimate of their immense proportion in a small population previous to

the Revolution. And when we consider the eagerness with which every available Irishman immediately rallied to the standard of Washington, while thousands of the Anglo-Saxons fled to Canada and England, and many more joined the English forces against America; it is easy to see that the vast majority of Washington's army must have been composed of native born Irish and those of Irish descent. Hence, we realize the truth of the statement of George Washington Park Curtis, the adopted son of Washington, above quoted, as follows: "The aid we received from Irish Catholics in the struggle for independence was **essential** to our ultimate success. In the War of Independence, Ireland furnished one hundred men for every single man furnished by any other foreign nation; let America bear eternal gratitude to Irishmen." And so the Irish were here, and also played a very essential part in establishing the independence of America. Trevelyan and Company notwithstanding. "We lost America by the Irish emigrants," was the doleful wail and lament uttered by Lord Mountjoy in the British House of Commons. "These emigrations are fresh in the recollection of every gentleman in this House. I am assured, from the best authority, the major part of the American army was composed of Irish, and that the Irish language was

as commonly spoken in the American ranks as English. I am also informed, it was their valour that determined the contest, so that England had America detached from her by force of Irish emigrants." The "Penal Laws" had done their dire work and drove the Irish people from their once peaceful and happy homes, to seek in other lands the right to live.

The Protestant poet, Davis, contemplating this horrid night-time of suffering and sorrow, exclaimed;

Oh! weep those days, the penal days,  
 When Ireland hopelessly complained.  
 Oh! weep those days, the penal days,  
 When godless persecution reigned.

They bribed the flock, they bribed the son,  
 To sell the priests and rob the sire;  
 Their dogs were taught alike to run  
 Upon the scent of wolf and friar,  
 Among the poor,  
 Or on the moor,

Where hid the pious and the true,  
 While traitor, knave,  
 And recreant slave,  
 Had riches, rank and retinue.

And exiled in those penal days,  
 Our banners over Europe blaze.

The preservation of the Irish race after

seven hundred and fifty years of British persecution and extermination, is a far greater miracle of Divine Providence than His preservation of the Israelites for forty years in the desert.

“Truth crushed to earth shall rise again.” And so shall human liberty. The spirit of liberty in the Irish people is as unconquerable today as it was when Strongbow landed in Ireland in 1170. England may have succeeded in plundering them and driving them into exile, but the prophetic warning of Henry Grattan, in the Irish House of Commons, has been verily fulfilled: “What England tramples on in Ireland will rise and sting her in America.” Walter Hussey Burgh visioned this prophecy when he boldly declared in the British Parliament: “England has sown her laws as dragons’ teeth, and they have sprung up as armed men.” Yes, no longer trampled upon in Ireland, they sprang up in their tens of thousands like Trojan warriors, and, on land and sea, smote the Irish and American oppressor on every battlefield from Lexington and Bunker Hill to the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. Alexander Graydon, Colonel of the Continental army, referring to the eagerness with which they met the English antagonist, says in his *Memoirs*, p. 122: “As to the genuine sons of Hibernia, it was enough for them to know

that England was the antagonist. Stimulants here were wholly superfluous, and the sequel was constantly shown that in a contest with Englishmen, Irishmen like the mettlesome courses of Phaethon, only required reining in."

The words of the poet, Davis, on the battle of Fontenoy, might be very appropriately applied to many a battlefield of the American Revolution; only substituting "On Fontenoy" with "On Bunker Hill," "At Lexington," "At Stony Point," "At Valley Forge," etc.;

How fierce the smiles these exiles wear, who're  
wont to look so gay,

The treasured wrongs of fifty years are in their  
hearts today;

The treaty broken ere the ink wherewith 'twas  
writ could dry,

Their plundered homes, their ruined shrines,  
their women's parting cry;

Their priesthood hunted down like wolves,  
their country overthrown!

Each looks as if revenge for all, were staked on  
him alone.

On Fontenoy! on Fontenoy, nor ever yet else-  
where,

Pushed on to fight a nobler band than those  
proud exiles were.

O'Brien's voice is hoarse with joy, as halting  
he commands,

"Fix Bay'nets — charge." Like mountain  
 storm rush on these fiery bands!  
 Thin is the English column now, and faint  
 their volleys grow,  
 Yet must'ring all the strength they have they  
 made a gallant show.  
 They dress their ranks upon the hill to face  
 that battle wind;  
 Their bayonets the breakers' foam; like rocks  
 the men behind.  
 One volley crashes from their line. when  
 through the surging smoke,  
 With empty guns clutched in their hands the  
 headlong Irish broke.  
 On Fontenoy, on Fontenoy, hark to the fierce  
 huzza!  
 "Revenge! remember Limerick! dash down  
 the Sassenagh!"

Like lions leaping at a fold when mad with  
 hungers pang,  
 Right up against the English line the Irish  
 exiles sprang,  
 Bright was their steel, 'tis bloody now, their  
 guns are filled with gore;  
 Through shattered ranks, and severed piles,  
 and trampled flags they tore,  
 The English strove with desperate strength,  
 paused, rallied, staggered, fled,

The green hillside is matted close with dying  
and the dead.

Across the plain and far away passed on that  
hideous wrack,

While cavalier and fantassin dash in upon their  
track.

On Fontenoy, on Fontenoy, like eagles in the  
sun,

With bloody plumes the Irish stand, the field  
is fought and won!

George III. with impotent rage, might well  
exclaim of the American Irish what George II.  
exclaimed at Fontenoy: "Cursed be the laws  
that deprived me of such subjects."

## CHAPTER IX.

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATED BY THE AMERICAN ARMY.

The numerical strength and high standing of the Irish element in the American army are even more convincingly shown by the fact, that St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by the army upon several occasions, even by order of Washington himself. In "Force's American Archives, 4th Ser., Vol. V., p. 421, it is stated that when the British evacuated Boston and sailed away with all their troops and Tories to Halifax, March 17, 1776, and the Americans marched in and took possession of it, "the day was celebrated" and Washington commanded that the parole of the day should be "Boston" and the countersign, "St. Patrick," and, to make the day all the more Irish, he appropriately appointed General Sullivan "the Brigadier of the day." Colonel McLane narrates the following amusing incident of how the American troops celebrated St. Patrick's Day in 1778: "When Washington and his army lay at Valley Forge in 1778 some of the Pennsylvania Germans made a Paddy and displayed it on St. Patrick's Day to the great indignation of the Irish in the camp. They assembled in



large bodies under arms, swearing vengeance against the New England troops, saying they had got up the insult. The affair threatened a very serious issue; none of the officers could appease them. At this, Washington, having ascertained the entire innocence of the New England troops rode up to the Irish and kindly and feelingly argued with them, and then requested the Irish to show the offenders and he would see them punished. They could not designate any one. "Well," said Washington with great promptness, "I, too, am a lover of St. Patrick's Day and must settle the affair by making all the army keep the day." He therefore ordered extra drink to every man of his command and thus all made merry and were good friends. That the day was celebrated on March 17, 1781, we learn from the diary of Colonel Angell wherein he wrote: "Good weather; a great parade this day with the Irish, it being 'St. Patrick's.' I spent the day on the Point and tarried with the officers." Lieutenant William Feltman on March 16, 1782, also states: "This morning received an invitation from Lieutenant Smith to spend St. Patrick's Day with him, tomorrow in company with Lieutenant North, Lieutenant McCollam, Lieutenant Reed, Dr. McDowell, Ensigns Van Court and Cunningham; we rode to Mr. Kennedy's about fifteen miles from camp at a

place called 'Rantholes' on Stone River, about twelve miles from Charleston, and spent the day and the greater part of the night very agreeably." He describes how they dined the next day "very sumptuously on codfish, Irish potatoes, asparagus, fowls, etc., and after dinner we surrounded a large table which was decked with Nantes brandy, excellent spirits." In the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury, dated April 24, 1780, appear the following general orders from Washington. Headquarters, Morristown, 16th of March, 1780.: "The General congratulates the army on the very interesting Proceedings of the Parliament of Ireland, and the inhabitants of that country, which have been lately communicated, not only as they appear calculated to remove those heavy and tyrannical oppressions of their trade, but, to restore to a brave and generous people their ancient rights and freedom, and by their operation to promote the cause of America. Desirous of impressing on the minds of the army, transactions so important in their nature, the General directs that all Fatigue and Working Parties, cease for tomorrow, the 17th, a day held in particular regard by the people of that Nation. At the same time he orders, that, as a mark of the pleasure he feels on the occasion, he persuades himself that the celebration of the day, will not be attended with

the least rioting or disorder. The officers to be at their quarters in camp, and the troops of each State Line, are to be kept within their own encampment." That the day might be celebrated in a becoming and befitting manner, the following order was also received: "The Commanding Officer desires that the celebration of the day should not pass by without having a little rum issued to the troops, and has thought proper to direct the commissary to send for the hogshead which the Colonel has purchased already in the vicinity of the camp. While the troops are celebrating the bravery of St. Patrick, in innocent mirth and pastime, he hopes they will not forget their worthy friends in the kingdom of Ireland, who, with the greatest unanimity, have stepped forward in opposition to the tyrant, Great Britain, and, who, like us, are determined to die or be free." The camp parole of the day was "Saint" and the countersign "Patrick" and "Shelah." If the Irish element in the Revolutionary army were composed, as our learned historians tell us, "mostly of Scotch-Irish Presbyterians from Ulster" it is certainly strange, if not amusing, to find them, even in wartimes, celebrating the Catholic festival of St. Patrick's Day. Nowhere in the Revolutionary records is it found that the Scotch festival of "St. Andrew's Day" was celebrated

on any particular occasion. As everyone knows, St. Patrick, by the Divine Authority of Pope Celestine established the Catholic Church in Ireland, A. D. 432, and his festival has been celebrated for centuries by the Irish Catholic people at home and abroad. In Ireland itself, from early dawn until late at night, the day is celebrated with the greatest religious fervor, surpassed only on the great festivals of Christmas and Easter. And, wherever the exiled Irish went, over seas and continents, they carried with them and transmitted to their posterity an undying love for Ireland, and devotion to Ireland's Apostle, St. Patrick. On every recurring St. Patrick's Day, throughout Europe and here in America, in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, and wherever a remnant of the Irish race is found the day is celebrated and in the myriad cathedrals and churches, the organ thunders with a triumphant peal, and the strains of the well-remembered "Hail! Glorious St. Patrick!" fill the sacred edifices, reviving the memories of passed days in the hearts of the devout worshippers. On that day, from the rising to the setting of the sun, the Irish race clasps hands, and encircles the world around with prayer and remembrance. Who can estimate the immense power and influence the celebration of Ireland's national festival has had, not only in bringing

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together the scattered remnants of the race in every land, but also in keeping alive in spite of insult and ridicule, their ancient faith and national aspirations? No one understood and appreciated this great influence better than Washington and he demonstrated his warm regard for Ireland and the Irish race, when amidst the cares and distractions of the battle-field, he ordered the "Celebration of the Day," by the troops during the Revolutionary war.

CHAPTER X.  
  
SOCIETY OF THE FRIENDLY SONS OF  
ST. PATRICK; WASHINGTON  
A MEMBER.

Before stating how Washington became a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, it will be highly instructive and interesting to give a brief history of this Irish-American Society, which took such a prominent part and wielded such a powerful influence in the achievement of American independence, both before and during the Revolution.

As already stated, about the early influx of Irish in the Colonies, large numbers came and settled in Pennsylvania, as early as 1681. William Penn, the founder, who had lived for many years in Ireland as manager of his father's estate at Kinsale, County Cork, brought out a large colony from Cork and Wexford in 1682. Seventeen years later, he brought out others, among whom was the young and brilliant Irishman, James Logan, son of Patrick Logan of Lurgan, County Antrim, who was noted for his great learning. For nearly half a century this James Logan occupied leading positions in Pennsylvania, among them being

Chief Justice of the Courts, Provincial Secretary and President of the Council. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, large numbers came to Philadelphia and its surroundings. Gordon, in his "History of Pennsylvania," p. 207, states that in one year alone, from December, 1728, to December, 1729, the immigration to the province was as follows: English and Welsh, 267; Scotch, 43; Palatines (Germans), 243; Irish, 5,655. If anything like that proportion were maintained for any considerable length of time, it can readily be perceived, that at the Revolutionary period the Irish element in the population must have been very large. Previous to the establishment of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, the Irish had other associations known as the "Hibernian Fire Company," the "Gloucester Fox Hunting Club" and the "Irish Club." The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick was organized on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1771. At its organization there were twenty-four regular members and six honorary members, as follows: President, Stephan Moylan; Vice-President, John M. Nesbitt; Treasurer and Secretary, William Mitchell. Thomas Barelay, John Boyle, Andrew Caldwell, Samuel Caldwell, George Campbell, George Davis, Thomas Fitzsimmons, Tench Frances, Colonel Turbutt Frances, Benjamin Fuller, George Fullerton, Ulysses Lynch, George

Meade, John Mease, James Mease, Mathew Mease, John Mitchell, John Nixon, John Shee, William West. Honorary Members: John Dickinson, William Hamilton, William Hicks, Henry Hill, Robert Morris, James Searle.

Nearly all the regular members were prosperous merchants of Philadelphia, engaged in the shipping and importing business. Their commerce in teas, wines, silks, Irish linens, etc., extended not only to Europe, but also to East India. They were all native-born Irishmen or of Irish descent, and associated with them were many of the most prominent men in the commercial and professional life of the city. The Society was a patriotic and social organization, and at their quarterly meetings, which were always friendly and convivial, many of the leading public men attended as guests and enjoyed the generous hospitality of their Irish friends. Besides these quarterly meetings, their annual celebration of St. Patrick's Day, was always a most brilliant affair. At their dinners, many distinguished guests were present, including Washington himself, at first as guest, but afterwards as a regular member, Jefferson was also a frequent guest. Each member was required to furnish himself with a gold medal valued at three guineas, which should be worn at all meetings and functions under penalty of five shillings fine. The same



penalty was imposed for non-attendance at meetings. The minutes of the meetings show that these fines were promptly paid and the money deposited in the treasury and appropriated towards the expense of the anniversary dinners. This gold medal of the order was very unique and handsome. On the front were figures. One on the right representing Hibernia, was a beautiful female supported by a harp, bearing a torch; one on the left, representing America, was that of an Indian, with his quivers on his back and his bow in his left hand. In the centre, representing Liberty and joining the hands of Hibernia and America, was another female figure, and beneath the word "Unite." On the reverse side was the figure of St. Patrick trampling on a snake, a cross in his right hand and dressed in his pontifical robes, and beneath him the motto "Hiar." One of these medals was presented to Washington when he became a member of the order. From the very beginning the membership quickly increased. The minutes show that at each quarterly meeting many new members were elected from the most representative and influential citizens. At the quarterly meeting on September 17, 1774, amongst other names elected was that of Anthony Wayne, who afterwards became General Wayne, one of the most heroic figures of the Revolution. As the Revolution

approached the Society became more and more patriotic, until finally it threw itself heart and soul into the cause of American liberty, and many of its members became the foremost leaders in the great struggle for independence. Philadelphia was then the largest city in the American Colonies. Westscott, in his history says: "It was the central point of the Colonies and it numbered among its citizens many men whose opinions were controlling forces. Benjamin Franklin and John Dickinson had as much to do as any other two men who can be named in uniting the Colonies and preparing them for resistance; and, after Washington, Benjamin Franklin and Robert Morris did more than any other two men to make that resistance successful." Of the four distinguished men here mentioned, three of them, Washington, Dickinson and Morris were members of the Society and the daughter of Franklin was the wife of Richard Bache, another member. On May 20, 1774, the citizens organized the famous Committee of Correspondence. The object of this Committee was to correspond with the other Colonies urging the necessity of combining in the formation of a Continental Congress. Nineteen members were appointed for this very important duty and among them were the following members of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick: John Dickinson, John Nixon,

John Nesbitt and Thomas Barclay. On November 17, 1774, the First Troop of the Light Horse of Philadelphia was organized. Twenty-eight men were appointed organizers, and of these the following ten were members of this Irish society: James Mease, John Mease, Henry Hill, John Boyle, John Mitchell, George Campbell, Samuel Caldwell, Andrew Caldwell, George Fullerton and William West, and later on John Dunlap and Blair McClenachan. Of the entire membership of this First Troop, which served with eminent distinction during the entire Revolution, more than one-third belonged to this Irish organization. When the Revolution broke out and the news of the battle of Lexington arrived, it was immediately determined to form an army of defence. Here again, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick were among the first volunteers; John Dickinson was Colonel of the First Battalion, John Cadwalader, Colonel; John Nixon, Lieutenant-Colonel; Samuel Meredith, Major of the Third Battalion, and Captains Richard Peters, Tench Francis and John Shee.

Referring to the active part taken by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in the Revolution, Haltigan in his "Irish in the American Revolution," p. 156, states: "The history of Philadelphia in the Revolution and of the Revolution itself is incomplete without a record of the

patriotic services of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Whether in the field or upon the sea, or in the giving freely of their goods, money and time to the Revolutionary cause, we find their names ever prominent. Among the first vessels equipped for a Continental navy, we find the brig Lexington, commanded by Captain John Barry. Abandoning "the finest ship and the first employ in America" he offered his services to his adopted country and was the first to put to sea, on a regularly commissioned national vessel for a regular cruise in December, 1775. Andrew Caldwell was appointed Commodore of the Pennsylvania navy, and was in command of the fleet which repelled the attack of the British ships Roebuck and Liverpool, which came up the Delaware on May 8, 1776. One of the two new battalions added to the Associators was commanded by Thomas McKean, afterwards President of the Hibernian Society. Of the four battalions organized for the Continental service, Colonel John Shee and Colonel Anthony Wayne commanded two of them, and Lambert Cadwalader and Francis Johnson were Lieutenant-Colonels. John Maxwell Nesbitt was appointed Paymaster of all the Pennsylvania forces. In the autumn of 1776, the Society contributed its first martyr to the cause, George Fullerton, one of its members, being accidentally killed while on service

with the Light Horse. John Dickinson, Thomas McKean, and Robert Morris were members of the Continental Congress and the last two signed the Declaration of Independence." Further referring to the prominent part played by the members of the Friendly



READING OF THE DECLARATION

Sons of St. Patrick, Haltigan States: "The Declaration was publicly proclaimed amidst the rejoicings of the people. Colonel John Nixon read the Declaration to the people assembled in the State House yard." (Independence Square)."

Mr. Thomas Hood remarks in his sketch of the Friendly Sons, that, "it was an Irishman Charles Thompson, Secretary of Congress, who

first prepared that immortal document for publication from the rough draft of Jefferson; an Irishman's son, John Nixon, who first publicly read it, and another Irishman, Thomas Dunlap, who first printed it and published it to the world. Ireland was well represented in connection with the glorious document and nobly did her sons do their duty in the work which called it forth." Wherever hard fighting was to be done and heroic exploits accomplished, we find the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick taking an active and prominent part. In the Canadian campaign, Anthony Wayne was Commander of a regiment, Col. Edward Hand was commander of the oldest regiment in the Continental army at New York. Colonel John Shee was also commander of a Continental regiment, Captain Thomas Proctor was Commander of the first company of the famous Pennsylvania artillery. Of the six battalions of State troops in active service outside the State of Pennsylvania, three of them were commanded by Colonels John Dickinson, John Cadwalader and Thomas McKean. Many of the members of this Irish-American Society belong to the famous Light Horse Troop of Philadelphia who were the special "aids" of Washington, and, who fought with distinguished bravery all through the Revolution.

Two of the most thrilling events in Revolutionary history are the battles of Trenton and Princeton. On Christmas night, 1776, in a driving storm of sleet and amid drifting ice, Washington crossed the Delaware, and defeated the Hessians at Trenton, capturing a thousand prisoners, slaying their leader and escaping



WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE

back safely to camp with the loss of only four men. Washington again crossed the Delaware and defeated the British forces near Princeton, took three hundred prisoners, and by rapid marches reached Morristown Heights in safety. "The passage of the Delaware," says the historian, "was made difficult and dangerous by storm, darkness and floating ice, and the boats upon which the troops had embarked not being

able to reach the shore, the men were compelled to take to the water and force a passage amid the floating ice with their horses." In all these thrilling events, the Light Horse took an active part. It received special orders from Washington to cover the rear of the army, and was the last to cross the Delaware River.

The strongest and most convincing proofs of genuine loyalty and patriotism are seen, not in loud-sounding phrases, vaunting expressions, or extravagant declarations of loyalty, but, in the substantial assistance actually given, and the sacrifices cheerfully made by the people, in their country's cause. It is genuine loyalty and patriotism only, when men are ready to devote their treasures and lives to the cause they espouse. Such were the unselfish loyalty and devotion to American liberty given by the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, all through the Revolution. Even in the darkest days of 1778 and 1779, when brave men became anxious and even doubtful of final victory; when the continental paper money had so depreciated in value that an officer's pay would not keep him in clothes, and when the State currency was affected by the general distrust; when the dark hour of discontent in the American army, through want of food, clothing and even medicine was approaching a crisis; then did the wives and members of this Society, with other



patriotic citizens of Philadelphia come to the rescue by forming and signing an agreement to take the paper money as equivalent to gold and silver and raise funds for the support and equipment of the army. This patriotic agreement included the names of twenty-three mem-



WASHINGTON ENTERING TRENTON

bers of the Friendly Sons. The patriotic women of Philadelphia assembled and soon raised a fund upwards of \$300,000 to supply destitute soldiers with clothing. Among the ladies on the committee were the wives of members of the society as follows: Mrs. R. Bache, Mrs. T. McKean, Mrs. R. Morris, Mrs. J. Mitchell,

Mrs. T. Francis, Mrs. J. Caldwell, Mrs. B. McClenachan, Mrs. J. Searle, Mrs. J. Mease, also a second Mrs. J. Mease. The money raised was employed, at the suggestion of Washington, in furnishing shirts for the army. The Bank of Pennsylvania was organized by the men for the purpose of supplying provisions for the army. The following account of this bank given by Samuel Hood in his sketch of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, is taken from Haltigan's excellent "History of the Irish in the American Revolution, p. 158. "Intimately connected with the glory of the Society of the Sons of St. Patrick, is a matter which must be referred to in some detail. In the year 1780, a transaction took place in Philadelphia, almost unparalled in the history of nations and patriotism, which casts a luster not only on the individuals, who were the authors of it, but on the whole community to which they belonged. If the glorious examples of the past could influence the conduct of men of the present day, the reputation and good name of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania would soon be firmly fixed on so immovable a pedestal as to defy the malicious assaults of British libelers, and even the more dangerous folly, selfishness and cowardice of our own partisan politicians. At the time alluded to, when everything depended on a vigorous prosecution of the war, when the

American army was in imminent danger of being compelled to yield to famine, a far more dangerous enemy than the British, when the urgent expostulations of the Commander-in-Chief, and the strenuous recommendations of Congress, had utterly failed to arouse a just sense of danger of the crisis; the genuine love of country, and most noble self-sacrifice of some individuals in Philadelphia supplied the place of the slumbering patriotism of the country, and saved the cause from most disgraceful ruin. In this great emergency, was conceived and promptly carried into operation, the plan of the bank of Pennsylvania, established for supplying the army of the United States with provision for two months. On the 17th of June, 1780, the following paper, which deserves to rank as a supplement of the Declaration of Independence, was signed by ninety three individuals and firms; "Whereas, in the present situation of public affairs in the United States, the greatest and most vigorous exertions are required for the successful management of the just and necessary war which we are engaged in with Great Britain; We, the subscribers, deeply impressed with the sentiments that on such an occasion would govern us in the prosecution of the war on the event of which our own freedom and that of our posterity, and the freedom and independence of the United

States, are all involved, hereby severally pledge our property, and credit for the several sums specified and mentioned after our names, in order to support the credit of a bank to be established for furnishing a supply of provisions for the armies of the United States; and do hereby severally promise and engage to execute to the Directors of the said bank bonds of the form hereunto annexed. Witness our hands, this 17th day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, 1780." Then followed the names of the subscribers with the sums respectively subscribed, amounting to 315,000 pounds, (\$1,575,000) Pennsylvania currency, payable in gold or silver. Of this amount twenty-seven members of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, subscribed, 103,500 pounds, (\$517,500). The names of these, with the amounts of their subscriptions, are as follows namely:

Robert Morris,	10,000 pounds,	\$50,000
Blair McClenachan,	10,000 pounds,	\$50,000
William Bingham,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
J. M. Nesbitt & Co.,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
Michael Peters,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
Samuel Meredith,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
James Mease,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
John Nixon,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
Thomas Barclay,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
John Dunlap,	4,000 pounds,	\$20,000
George Campbell	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000

John Mease	4,000 pounds,	\$20,000
Bunner Murray & Co.	6,000 pounds,	\$30,000
John Patton,	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
Benjamin Fuller,	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
George Meade & Co.,	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
John Donaldson	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
Henry Hill,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000
Keane and Nichols,	4,000 pounds,	\$20,000
James Caldwell,	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
John Shee,	1,000 pounds,	\$ 5,000
Sharp Delaney,	1,000 pounds,	\$ 5,000
Tench Francis,	5,500 pounds,	\$27,500
John Mitchell	2,000 pounds,	\$10,000
Samuel Caldwell,	1,000 pounds,	\$ 5,000
Hugh Sheill,	5,000 pounds,	\$25,000

Also two members of the

Hibernian Society,

Joseph Carson,	4,000 pounds,	\$20,000
Thomas McKean	2,500 pounds,	\$12,500

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112,000 pounds, \$560,000

The total subscription of these two Irish-American societies shows that of the entire amount of 315,000 pounds subscribed, more than one third was contributed by twenty nine Irishmen. Mr. Hood, further states that: "There were five inspectors of the bank of whom three, Robert Morris, J. M. Nesbitt and Blair McClenachan, were members of the St. Patrick's. So were the first of the two direc-

tors, John Nixon and the factor, Tench Francis. All these agreed to serve without compensation. The several bonds, were executed to the two directors, and were conditioned for the payment of an amount not exceeding the sum subscribed by each obligor, for furnishing a supply of provisions for the armies of the United States. The bank opened July 17, 1780 in Front Street, two doors below Walnut. The tenth and last installment was called in on the 15th of November 1780. The bank continued in operation till the establishment of the Bank of North America, January 7, 1782, which appears to have sprung from it, and to have monopolized the glory which belonged to the old Bank of Pennsylvania, of having rendered essential service to the country during the Revolution."

### **Washington becomes a Member**

Very frequent in the past, and even at present, a deep-seated and strong prejudice amounting almost to hatred of the Irish people and of everything Irish, has existed and with some few, still exists. This feeling has arisen not only from ignorance, but especially from false and malicious impressions, designedly made by means of British propaganda, not only at home, but especially abroad, wherever the Irish went. Not satisfied with plundering the Irish people at home, but in order to justify

this brutal treatment, and, if possible prevent them from succeeding abroad, they have been grossly misrepresented and caricatured in America as well as elsewhere. Hence, anything or everything, no matter how irrefragable that might redound to the credit of the race, has been either carefully concealed or treated with ridicule. Not only the great part played by Ireland at home, and her people here in the achievement of American Independence, but also the fact that Washington became a member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick have been both carefully concealed and ridiculed by individuals as well as by historians. For this reason we hereby produce the documents and facts relative to Washington's membership in the Society from Hattigan's History above mentioned:—

“In 1781, especially after the surrender of Cornwallis the prospects of the patriots grew brighter and hope dawned once more on the destinies of the new nation. The attendance at the meetings of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick became more numerous, the number of distinguished guests greatly increased, and applications for membership became more frequent. During the latter part of 1781, it was proposed to invite General Washington to dinner, but, it was found that he could not attend owing to a previous engagement. On Decem-

ber 18, 1781, the Society evidently determined that they must have his Excellency not only present as a Guest, but must have his name also added to the roll, and as the list of honorary members who were not of Irish birth or descent



GEORGE WASHINGTON

Member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick

was full, they, "unanimously adopted General Washington as a member of this Society," thus making an Irishman out of him as far as it was in their power to do so. The members must



have known that it would be agreeable to General Washington to be added to the list of members, and his acceptance of the honor shows that they had knowledge of his sentiments. After the enthusiasm, which had been created by General Washington's adoption, had subsided, it was ordered "that the President, Vice-President and Secretary should wait on his Excellency with a suitable address and present him with a medal in the name of the Society." James Mease offered his medal for the purpose and it was accepted. It was also resolved, "that they invite his Excellency and his suite to an entertainment to be prepared and given to him Tuesday, the first day of January, at the City Tavern, to which the Secretary is directed to invite the President of the State and of Congress, the Minister of France, Mr. Marmois; Mr. Otto, the Chief Justice, Thomas McKean; the Speaker of the House of Assembly; Mr. Francisco Rendon, Mr. Holker, Count de-la-Touche, and Count Dillon, with all the general officers that may be in the city. "The minutes further record that "in the pursuance of the foregoing order, the president and secretary waited upon his Excellency with the following address:

"May it please your Excellency:

The Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, in this city, ambitious to testify with all

possible respect the high sense they entertain of your Excellency's public and private virtues, have taken the liberty to adopt your Excellency a member. Although they have not the clothing of any civil establishment nor the splendor of temporal power to dignify their election, yet, they flatter themselves, as it is the genuine offspring of hearts filled with the warmest attachments, that this mark of their esteem and regard will not be wholly unacceptable to your Excellency. Impressed with these pleasing hopes, they have directed me to present your Excellency, with a gold medal, the ensign of the Fraternal Society, which that you may be pleased to accept, and long live to wear, is the earnest wish of,

Your Excellency's Most Humble and Respectful Servant,

By order and in behalf of the Society,  
George Campbell, President.

"To His Excellency General Washington,  
Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Army."

To which His Excellency was pleased to give the following answer:

"Sir:"

"I accept with singular pleasure the Ensign of so worthy a fraternity as that of the Sons of St. Patrick in this city—a Society distinguished for the firm adherence of its members

to the glorious cause in which we are embarked. Give me leave to assure you, Sir, that I shall never cast my eyes upon the badge with which I am honoured, but with a grateful remembrance of the polite and affectionate manner in which it was presented.

I am with Respect and Esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

George Washington.

To; George Campbell, Esq., President of the Society of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, in the City of Philadelphia.

The dinner which followed was a most distinguished gathering, nearly all the invited guests being present; together with seven Generals of the army, and six Colonels, one Major, and the Surgeon-General, Dr. John Cochran.

The anniversary dinner on March 18, 1782, exceeded in brilliancy even the preceding dinner on the first of January, General Washington was again present, but this time he was recorded as a member and not as a guest. It must have been on this occasion that he signed the Rules, as General Hand, who signed along with him, was elected a member at that meeting, as was also General Knox. In the Grand Federal Procession on the Fourth of July 1798,

to celebrate the ratification of the Federal Constitution, no less than twenty members of the Friendly Sons took leading parts in the various committees which organized it. The society continued to wield a great influence on public



ULYSSES S. GRANT

Member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick

affairs until 1790. After that it commenced to wane, its ranks being thinned by death and its place being taken by the younger and more powerful Hibernian Society, which was organ-

ized in that year. The last meeting of the Friendly Sons is supposed to have been held in March, 1802. "The Society at that date," writes Mr. Campbell, "was probably but a shadow of its former self, kept alive, no doubt, by General Moylan and a few of his old companions for association sake. We can fancy them seated at dinner on St. Patrick's Day, talking over the golden days of the Society—how General Washington was made an Irishman by adoption, and how he signed the constitution—how Mad Anthony Wayne captured Stony Point—how Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Paul Jones, and other distinguished men honored the patron Saint of Ireland—how John Nixon, Thomas Fitzsimmons, and others were fined for not wearing their Society medals at dinner—how glorious and patriotic a part the members took in achieving American independence." "It was a society of heroes—some distinguished—some humble—but all animated with the spirit of resistance to oppression, which made them such stern foes of British tyranny. The story of the American Revolution contains many bright pages, and among the brightest are those relating to the history of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; and it is a pleasing thought that the spirit which animated them was continued in full vigor, and exists at the present day in their

worthy descendants of the Hibernian Society, whose history is rivalled only by that of its patriotic predecessor."

The foregoing chapters contain only a short sketch or summary of the important and heroic part taken by Ireland at home, and her people here in the great and glorious achievement of American Independence. For more extensive information on this interesting subject, the reader is referred to Michael J. O'Brien's excellent work, "A Hidden Phase of American History"; also Haltigan's "Irish in the American Revolution," D'Arcy McGee's "Irish settlers in North America" and Campbell's history of "The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick." But, brief as the foregoing is, it will be found sufficient to show that Ireland and the Irish people, have always been the true, loyal and sincere friends of America. When the struggling colonies needed a real friend; one on whom they could confidently rely; one, who was not actuated by selfish motives, or sordid interests, but solely for the sacred cause of American liberty; they found in Ireland and the Irish people, not merely empty sympathy, but the earnest, solid and substantial aid they needed; Ireland was not deterred from promptly responding to America's call for aid, by any selfish consideration, in the days of Franklin and Washington. She was not deterred, al-

though she well knew, it would bring upon her the revenge and still greater oppression of England. No, it was sufficient for her to know that the people in far-away America, were struggling for liberty and ought to be assisted. Had she considered her own selfish interests, and remained at least neutral, she would have been well repaid, commercially and otherwise; but, to her eternal honor she took sides with the weak and oppressed. "A voice from America," says Flood, "shouted liberty," and every hill and valley of this rejoicing Island, answered "Liberty!!!"

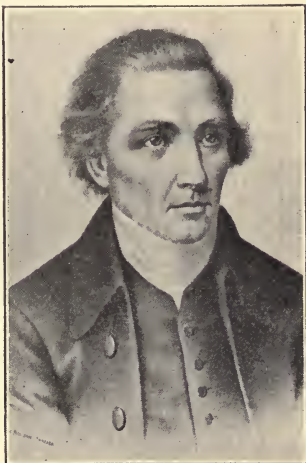
The American people should not forget this magnanimous action of Ireland, nor the sincere assurances of support for the freedom of Ireland given by Franklin and the Continental Congress. Much praise has been given France for aid in the Revolutionary war, and America has paid her debt of gratitude, especially in the last war. But, while we justly appreciate French aid, we should not forget that the Irish did most of the hard fighting, and moreover that most of the troops that came from France to aid America, as the muster rolls show, were Irish. Commenting upon the patriotism and fidelity of the Irish during the Revolution, Marquis de Chastellux, Major-General of Rochambeau's Army says: "An Irishman the instant he sets foot on American ground becomes ipso

facto an American. This was the case during the whole of the late war. Whilst Englishmen and Scotchmen were regarded with jealousy and distrust, even with the best recommendation of zeal and attachment to their cause; a native of Ireland stood in need of no other certificate than his dialect; his sincerity was never called into question. He was supposed to have a sympathy of suffering and every voice decided as if it were intuitively in his favor. Indeed, their conduct in the late Revolution amply justified this favorable impression, for whilst the Irish emigrants were fighting the battles of America by sea and land, the Irish merchants particularly at Charles Town, Baltimore and Philadelphia, labored with indefatigable zeal, and at all hazards to promote the spirit of enterprise, to increase the wealth and maintain the credit of the country; their purses were always open, and their persons devoted to the common cause. On more than one occasion, Congress owed their existence and America possibly her preservation, to the fidelity and firmness of the Irish."

Samuel Smiles, the English writer, commenting on the same subject says: "Of the Irish Colonists in America, a large proportion everywhere stood foremost on the side of the patriots. It seemed as if Providence had mysteriously used the victims of Britain's cruelty to



Ireland, the men whom her persecution had banished from the bosom of their own land, as the means of their final punishment, and humiliation on a foreign soil. As the Irish Brigade struck down the British power at Lan-



ANDREW JACKSON

Member of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick

den and Fontenoy, so did the refugee Irish in the ranks of the American patriot army, contribute to pluck from the haughty brow of Britain, the palm of empire." No wonder Lord

Mountjoy exclaimed in the British House of Parliament "We lost America by Irish emigrants."

List of prominent Public Officials who were members of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Society:

Presidents of the United States:

George Washington  
Andrew Jackson,  
Ulyssess S. Grant

Cabinet Officers:

Richard Bache, Postmaster General  
James Campbell, Postmaster General  
John Wanamaker, Postmaster General  
William J. Duane, Secretary of the Treasury  
Gen. Henry Knox, Secretary of War  
James M. Porter, Secretary of War  
Mahlon Dickerson, Secretary of Navy  
Wayne MacVeagh, Attorney General

Diplomatic Representatives:

Joseph R. Chandler,  
Minister to Two Sicilies;  
Wm. B. Reed, Minister to China  
Robert Adams, Jr., Minister to Brazil  
Andrew G. Curtin, Minister to Russia  
Thomas Barclay,  
Consul to Barbary Powers

John Mitchell, Consul at Santiago de Cuba  
Valentine Holmes,

Consul at Dublin, Ireland

Robert L. Longhead,

Consul at Londonderry, Ireland

Thomas E. Heenan, M.D., Consul at Odessa

Army Officers:

General George Washington

General Anthony Wayne

General Edward Hand

General Richard Butler

General William Thompson

General Henry Knox

General Stephan Moylan

General William Irvine

General John Cadwallader

General Walter Stewart

General John Shee

General Thomas Proctor

General John Cochran, Surgeon General

General John P. G. Muhlenberg

General Samuel Meredith

General Callender Irvine,

Commissary General

General Thomas Acheson

General Andrew Jackson

General Robert Patterson

General U. S. Grant

General St. Clair A. Mulholland

General Wm. McCandless

General James A. Beaver  
General J. P. S. Gobin  
General Robert P. Dechert  
General Thomas L. Kane  
General Robert E. Patterson  
Colonel Chas. Stewart  
Colonel Christopher Stewart  
Colonel Thomas L. Moore  
Colonel John Nixon  
Colonel Ephraim Blaine  
Colonel Thomas McKean  
Colonel Francis Johnston  
Colonel John Patton  
Colonel Lambert Cadwalader  
Colonel Sharp Delaney  
Colonel William Dean  
Colonel Francis Nichols  
Colonel Thomas Robinson  
Colonel John Dickinson  
Colonel Henry Hill  
Colonel Samuel B. Davis  
Colonel Robert Loller  
Colonel Frederick Watts  
Colonel Dennis Heenan  
Colonel Thomas J. Town  
Lt.-Colonel George Latimer  
Lt.-Colonel Augustus Boyd  
Lt.-Colonel Edward M. Heyl  
Lt.-Colonel John T. O'Brien  
Lt.-Colonel James O'Rielly  
Major Robert Patterson (1790)

Major William Gray  
Major James Moore  
Major Thomas D. Moore  
Major Thomas Ash  
Major Wayne MacVeagh  
Paymaster James Mease

Clothier General:

Surgeon W. J. Fleming  
Captain Edward H. Flood  
Captain James M. Leddy  
Captain John Taylor  
Captain John McCullough  
Captain Wm. C. Patterson  
Lieut. Wm Emsley  
Lieut. B. W. Ball  
Lieut. John McLoughlin  
Lieut. George Rooney

Navy Officers:

Admiral George C. Reed  
Commodore John Barry  
Commodore Thomas Reed  
Commodore Charles Stewart  
Captain Henry Geddes  
Captain John Green  
Captain Paul Cox  
Captain Nathan Boys  
Captain James Montgomery  
Purser Matthew Mease  
Surgeon Michael O'Hara

Members of Congress—Senators:

Robert Morris  
 William Bingham  
 Gen. J. P. G. Muhlenberg  
 Mahlon Dickerson

Representatives:

Wm. McAleer  
 John Dickinson  
 Robert Morris  
 Dr. Samuel Duffield  
 James Searle  
 Thomas Fitzsimmons  
 Richard Peters  
 William Bingham  
 Thos. McKean  
 Gen. Wm. Irvine  
 Gen. J. G. P. Muhlenberg  
 Col. Chas. Stewart  
 Col. Lambert Cadwalader  
 Gen. Samuel Meredith  
 Blair McClanachan  
 Phillip S. Markley  
 John Sergeant  
 Joseph Hemphill  
 Thomas Kittera  
 James Harper  
 William Findley  
 Tench Coxe  
 George W. Toland

Joseph R. Chandler  
Thomas Burnside  
Andrew G. Curtin  
Richard Vaux  
Benjamin T. Biggs  
James B. Reilly

Judges—United States District Court:

Richard Peters  
John K. Kane  
Mahlon Dickerson

Pennsylvania Supreme Court:

Thos. McKeane, Chief Justice  
John M. Read, Chief Justice  
John B. Gibson, Chief Justice  
George Bryan  
Thomas Sergeant  
Thomas Burnside  
Wm. A. Porter  
Mahlon Dickerson

New Jersey—Common Pleas:

George Bryan  
Henry Hill  
Sharp Delaney  
John Cadwalader  
Plunkett Fleeson  
John Fox

Bucks County:

Christopher Marshall  
William Nichols  
John Dickinson  
Waller Franklin  
John Geyer  
Thomas Armstrong  
James Campbell  
Michael Arnold  
Thomas R. Elcock  
James Gay Gordon

Orphans Court:

Plunkett Fleeson  
Henry Hill  
Wm. B. Hanna

District Court of Philadelphia:

Joseph Hemphill  
Thomas Sergeant  
Joseph Borden McKean  
Chas. S. Coxe

Court of General Sessions:

Joseph M. Doran

United States Officials—Local Clerks of United  
States Courts:

Samuel Caldwell  
David Caldwell  
Gen. Thos. L. Kane



## Marshals:

William Nichols  
Samuel D. Patterson

## District Attorney:

John M. Read

## Collector of the Port:

John Patterson •  
Sharp Delaney  
Lt.-Col. George Latimer  
Gen. J. P. G. Muhlenberg  
Gen. John Shee  
Gen. John Steele  
John Cadwalader

## Surveyors of the Port:

Gen. Walter Stewart  
John M. Campbell

## Naval Officers:

George Bryan  
Phillip S. Markley

## Navy Agents:

Henry Toland  
Samuel D. Patterson

## Directors of Mint:

Robert Patterson (1790)  
Robert M. Patterson, M. D.

Postmasters:

Richard Bache  
James Bryson  
Robert Patton  
Thos. Sergeant  
Wm. F. Harrity  
John Field

State Officials—Governors:

John Dickinson  
Andrew G. Curtin  
Thomas McKean  
Gen. James A. Beaver  
Mahlon Dickerson, Governor of New Jersey  
Benjamin T. Biggs, Governor of Delaware

Secretaries of Commonwealth:

Thomas Sergeant  
Andrew G. Curtin  
Wm. S. Stenger  
Wm. F. Harrity

State Treasurer:

Wm. V. McGrath

Receiver General of Land Office:

Col. Francis Johnston

Surveyor General:

Gen. Andrew Porter

## Secretaries of Internal Affairs:

Gen. Wm. McCandless  
Col. Thomas J. Stewart

## Auditors General:

John Donaldson  
George Bryan

## Comptroller General:

John Donaldson

## Adjutants General:

Mahlon Dickerson  
Thos. McKean, Jr.  
Gen. D. H. Hastings  
Judge Advocate General:  
John I. Rogers

## Committee of Safety:

Robert Morris  
John Dickinson  
Gen. Anthony Wayne  
Gen. John Cadwalader  
Col. Francis Johnston  
Col. John Nixon  
James Mease  
Thos. Fitzsimmons  
Andrew Caldwell  
George Campbell  
John Maxwell Nesbitt, Treasurer

Supreme Executive Council:

George Bryan, President

John Dickerson, President

Prothonotaries of Supreme Court:

Joseph Reed

William Duanee

Robert Tyler

Attorneys General:

Joseph B. McKean

Mahlon Dickerson

Walter Franklin

Joseph Reed

Thos. Sergeant

Ph. S. Markley

Wm. R. Reed

John J. Kane

John M. Reed

James Campbell

City Officials—Mayors:

John Barclay

John Geyer

Benjamin W. Richards

Richard Vaux

Alexander Henry

Morton McMichael

Wm. B. Smith

Edwin S. Stuart

James R. Kenney, Mayor of Reading, Pa.

## City Recorders:

Mahlon Dickerson

Joseph Reed

Richard Vaux

## Sheriffs:

Gen. Thos. Proctor

James Ash

Wm. T. Donaldson

Col. Francis Johnson

Benjamin Duncan

Wm. A. Porter

Morton McMichael

George Megee

Horatio P. Connell

## City Treasurers:

Gen. John Shee

Wm. V. McGrath

Dr. James McClintock

Richard G. Oellers

Joseph N. Pierson

George D. McCreary

## Coroners:

Thos. J. Powers

Dr. D. J. Langton, Schuylkill County

## Recorder of Deeds:

Edward Fox

James B. Reilly, Schuylkill County

## City Controller:

Gen. Robert P. Dechert

Receiver of Taxes:

John M. Melloy  
Capt. John Taylor

President of Select Council:

Robert Patterson, (1790)  
Thos. Kitters  
Wm. B. Smith

Presidents of Common Council:

John Worrell  
Wm. C. Patterson

Port Physicians:

Dr. James Mease  
Dr. Samuel Duffield

Prosecuting Attorneys:

Peter A. Browne  
Charles S. Coxe  
Thos. Kittera  
Wm. J. Duane  
Ph. S. Markley  
C. Wallace Brooke  
Wm. A. Porter  
Wm. B. Reed

District Attorneys:

Wm. B. Reed  
Geo. S. Graham  
James B. Reilly, Schuylkill County  
Wm. S. Stenger, Franklin County

City Solicitors:

Mahlon Dickerson

Joseph Reed

John K. Kane

John M. Read

Wm. A. Porter

Registrars of Wills:

George Campbell

Joseph B. McKean

John Geyer

Geo. W. McMahon

Thos. McCullough

City Commissioner:

Thomas A. Fahy

## CHAPTER XI

### LARGE CONTRIBUTION OF IRISHMEN TOWARDS AMERICAN CIVILIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Volumes could be written on the important part taken by the Irish race, not only in the achievement of American Independence, but also on its immense contribution towards the civilization and industrial development of this vast continent. Whilst this present work is only a brief sketch of the great part taken by the Irish race in the Revolutionary struggle, yet, in order to encourage further investigation on the subject it will not be deemed out of place here to draw the attention of the student to a few facts in connection with America's subsequent growth and development. The civilization and development of any part of the globe are proportionately beneficial to the whole. Not only the discovery, but especially the civilization and development of America have been, and always will be an inestimable benefit to the entire civilized world. No part of the globe has ever been civilized and developed so extensively in so short a time as the United States of America. Since the days of



Columbus, when America was a wild and savage wilderness, it has grown and developed to such gigantic proportions that it has become one of, if not the greatest nation of the globe. This marvelous growth and development have been accomplished chiefly by two races of people, namely, the Teutonic and the Celtic. Other races have also in recent years contributed their share in this development. The Teutonic race embraces the English and Germans, and the Celtic race, the Spanish, French, Irish and Scotch. Whilst each of these elements has more or less contributed towards this development, the Irish element has been far the largest. We have seen how they came in great numbers to the Colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries where many of them became prominent, and wielded a powerful influence in civic and national affairs, and in laying down deep and solid the foundations of a nation. They have continued to come here in larger numbers ever since. We have only to examine the old record of immigrant arrivals at every American port to verify this statement. It was those early Irish settlers, "those hardy sons of toil," who did all the hard work of felling the forest, taming and cultivating the vast prairie lands, digging canals and waterways, engineering and constructing the bridges and the vast net-work of railroads, building up

our cities, as well as defending the frontiers against hostile Indians. We have seen how most of the early colonial schoolmasters were Irishmen, and in the higher branches of education and science we have such distinguished Irishmen as, Dr. Allison, Charles Thompson, David Ramsay, Christopher Colles, Robert Fulton, Robert Adrian, Bishop Berkely, James Logan, Governor Sullivan, Governor De Witt Clinton, Oliver Byrne, Mathew Carey, in Political Economy and in the application of science to industrial development, Patrick Tracey Jackson, the projector of the first power-loom for the manufacture of cotton into cloth, and also of the first steam railroad in America. Among the first educational institutions of America after the establishment of Independence was, Pennsylvania College of which Dr. Allison, a native born Irishman was Provost. This great man spent most of his life as teacher in New London, New York and Philadelphia. In the biographies of many of our Revolutionary heroes, he is mentioned as their teacher, and as "one who had a singular insight into character and judgment in the management of pupils." Charles Thompson, a pupil of Allison, is the author of a version of the Septuagint, considered "a worthy landmark of Colonial learning." David Ramsay, the son of Irish parents, was born at Lancaster, Pa., in 1749. Not

only was he one of the first advocates of the Revolution, but was president of Congress in 1782. In 1796, he published the history of South Carolina; in 1801, the Life of Washington, and in 1808 the history of the United States. Other educational works of Irishmen in early American history are: Butler's Kentucky, Burke's Virginia, Edmund Burke's European Settlements in America, McMahon's Maryland, McSherry's Maryland, Dwyer's Buffalo, O'Reilly's Rochester, O'Callaghan's Documentary History of New York, Sullivan's Maine, Brown's Jamaica, Walsh's Jamaica, Madden's Cuba, Breen's St. Lucia, Warburton's Conquest of Canada, Bishop Burke's Tracts on Nova Scotia. In poetry we have the Latin poems of Markin which appeared in Philadelphia in 1728. Also the poetic works of John A. Shea, Mr. Gallagher of Cincinnati, The Misses Carey, Miss Alma C. Lynch, W. Mulchinock, etc. In theology we have the works of Bishop England, The several Catholic Controversies of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Cincinnati. The learned works of the Kendricks, brothers and Archbishops, the political essays of Charles Thompson, Mathew Carey and William Sampson, the speeches of Calhoun and Emmett, The lectures and essays of Henry Giles, The letters and lectures of Archbishop Hughes, together with numerous

other Irish journalists, writers and editors whose names and works, want of space excludes here. Governor Sullivan, of Massachusetts, the projector of the Middlesex Canal, Governor De Witt Clinton, the projector of the Erie Canal, James Logan and Bishop Berkely were some of the great pioneers of American civilization and development. Christopher Colles, the celebrated engineer and inventor, came from Ireland to America, about the year 1765. In 1772 he delivered a series of lectures at Philadelphia, "on the subject of Lock Navigation." De Witt Clinton says: "He was the first person who suggested to the government of New York State, the canals, and other improvements on the Ontario route." In 1784, 1785, 1786 and for several successive years he continued to petition the Legislature of that state, on the importance and utility of uniting the western lakes to the Atlantic ocean. In 1774 he proposed his plan of supplying New York with water by aqueducts. During the war of 1812, he was the "projector and operator of the telegraph erected on Castle Clinton. Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat, was born of poor Irish parents in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1765. In his early life he displayed artistic tastes, and painted portraits for a subsistence in Philadelphia. In 1786, he went to Europe, and after many trials

and delays he launched the first boat propelled by steam power on the river Seine in France in 1803. In 1806 he returned to America and ran the first complete model boat on the Hudson. Who can now estimate the tremendous material benefit, the gigantic growth and development, the amazing commercial expansion and industrial progress, not only of America, but of the whole world, caused by the inventions of these two Irishmen? Writing in 1852, Thomas D'Arcy McGee states: "It is not now possible for us to estimate how much of the growth and greatness of America is due to the canals of Colles, and the steamboats of Fulton. In fifty years this nation has increased its territory ten fold, its population seven fold, and its wealth a thousand fold. Too seldom do we remember, when borne triumphantly on the tide of all this prosperous increase; that to these humble, studious men, stout-hearted wrestlers with formidable problems, patient bearers, for truth's sake, of ridicule and reproach, we owe so much of all we most boast of, and most enjoy."

Other inventions which served to develop American industry to an extraordinary extent were those of the manufacture of cotton, and the railroads. These two great branches of industry were created and put into action by another Irish American, Patrick Tracey Jack-

son. As the real authors of many discoveries and inventions have been often robbed, not only of the benefits, but even the credit due to them, and others, have either wrongfully appropriated this credit, or it has been unjustly given them, either through prejudice against the real author, or lack of proper investigation, and in order to show to the student of history that Patrick Tracey Jackson is the real and original inventor and projector of the cotton-loom and the steam railroad, we will quote his biographer in his *Memoir of Patrick Tracey Jackson*, *Merchants Magazine* for 1848 as follows:

“His maternal grandfather, from whom he derived his name, was Patrick Tracey, an opulent merchant of Newburyport—an Irishman by birth, who, coming to this country, at an early age, poor and friendless, had raised himself by his own exertions, to a position which his character, universally esteemed by his fellow citizens, enabled him adequately to sustain.” In Coffin’s *History of Newbury* we find that when Arnold’s expedition against Canada, by way of Maine, was quartered at Newbury, September 19. 1775, the officers dined at Mr. Nathaniel Tracey’s, and on the 18th, at Mr. Tristram Dalton’s, another Irish merchant of Newbury. Writing from Fort Western September 28th Arnold returned his thanks

“for the many favors received from Mr. Nathaniel Tracey at Newburyport and desires his best respects to Mrs. Tracey, your brother, and Mr. Jackson. This Mr. Jackson here mentioned was member of Congress and married the daughter of Patrick Tracey of whom this Patrick Tracey Jackson was born. His entrance into the manufacture of cotton is told by his biographer as follows: “The first object to be accomplished was to procure a power-loom. To obtain one from England, was, of course, impracticable and, although there were many patents for such machines in our patent office, not one had yet exhibited sufficient merit to be adopted into use. Under these circumstances, but one resource remained—to invent one themselves; and this these earnest men at once set about. Unacquainted as they were with machinery, in practice, they dared, nevertheless, to attempt the solution of a problem that had baffled the most ingenious mechanics. In England the power mill had been invented by a clergyman, and why not here by a merchant? After numerous experiments and failures, they at last succeeded, in the autumn of 1812, in producing a model which they thought so well of, as to be willing to make preparations for putting up the mill for the weaving of cotton cloth. It was now necessary to procure the assistance of a practical mechanic

who could aid in the construction of the machinery: and the friends had the good fortune to secure the services of Mr. Paul Moody, afterwards so well known as the head of the machine shop at Lowell. They found, as might naturally be expected, many defects in their loom, but these were gradually remedied. The project hitherto had been exclusively for a weaving mill to do by power what had before been done by hand-loom. But it was ascertained on inquiry, that it would be more economical to spin the twist, rather than buy it, and they put up a mill for about one thousand seven hundred spindles which was completed late in 1813. It will probably strike the reader with some astonishment to be told that this mill, still in operation at Waltham, was probably the first one in the world that combined all the operations necessary for converting the raw cotton into finished cloth. Such, however is the fact, as far as we are informed on the subject. The mills in this country—Slater's for example, in Rhode Island, were spinning mills only, and in England, though the power-loom had been introduced, it was used in separate establishments, by persons who bought as the hand weavers had always done, their twist of the spinners. Great difficulty was at first experienced at Waltham, for the want of a proper preparation (sizing) of the warps. They



procured from England a drawing of Horrocks's dressing machine which with some essential improvements, they adopted, producing the dresser now in use at Lowell and elsewhere. No method was, however, indicated in the drawing for winding the threads from the bobbins on to the beam, and to supply this deficiency, Mr. Moody invented the very ingenious machine called the warper. Having obtained these, there was no further difficulty in weaving by power-looms."

Mr. Tracey founded the city of Lowell in 1820, called after his relative and partner, John A. Lowell. Mr. Lowell writes of Mr. Tracey as follows: "Ever prompt to act whenever his judgment was convinced, he began as early as 1820 to look around for some locality where the business might be extended, after the limited capabilities of Charles river should be exhausted. In 1821, Mr. Ezra Worthen, who had formerly been a partner with Mr. Moody, and who had applied to Mr. Jackson for employment, suggested that the Pawtucket canal at Chelmsford, would afford a fine location for large manufacturing establishments, and that probably a privilege might be purchased of its proprietors. To Mr. Jackson's mind the hint suggested a much more stupendous project—nothing less than to possess himself of the whole power of the Merrimac river,

at that place. Aware of the necessity of secrecy of action, to secure this property at any reasonable price, he undertook it single handed. It was necessary to purchase not only the stock in the canal, but all the farms on both sides of the river, which controlled the water power, or which might be necessary for the future extension of the business. No long series of years had tested the extent and profit of such enterprises; the great capitalists of our land had not yet become converts to the safety of such investments. Relying on his own talent and resolution, without even consulting his confidential advisers, he set about this task at his own individual risk, and it was not until he had accomplished all that was material for his purpose that he offered a share in the project to a few former colleagues. Such was the beginning of Lowell, a city which he lived to see, as it was completed. If all honor is to be paid to the enterprise and sagacity of these men who, in our day, with the advantage of great capital and longer experience, have bid a new city spring up from the forest on the borders of the same stream, accomplishing almost in a day what is in the course of nature the slow growth of centuries, what shall we say of the forecast and energy of that man who could contemplate and execute the same gigantic task, at that early period, and alone?"

The next great enterprise of Patrick Tracey Jackson was the conception and construction of the first steam railroads of America. It is difficult to determine whether the steamboat of Fulton or the railroad of Tracey Jackson has been the greater factor in the industrial development of the United States. If the large interior produce of the country cannot be hauled to the water edges, the utility of the steam vessels would be very insignificant. In olden times the mode of travel and transportation in America was very primitive and also expensive. There were no bridges over the great rivers of the country. The roads were very bad. All journeys were made on horseback, in stage coaches or in boats drawn by horses. When people began to move farther into the interior, the need of better roads and faster transportation was immediately felt. The merchants on seaboard wanted to send their hardware, clothing, household goods, farming implements into the interior and bring back to the seaports the potash, lumber, flour, skins and grain with which the settlers paid for these things. If they were too costly, frontiersmen could not buy them. If the roads were bad, the difficulty of getting merchandise to the frontier would make them too costly. People living in towns and cities along the seaboard were clamoring for better transporta-

tion. Thus it can be easily seen what a tremendous factor the railroad has been in the industrial development of America. The construction of the first American railroad by Patrick Tracey Jackson is described by his biographers in "Merchants' Magazine" for 1848 as follows: "In 1830, the interests of Lowell induced Mr. Jackson to enter into business new to himself and others. This was the building of the Boston and Lowell railroad. For some years, the practicability of constructing roads in which the friction should be materially lessened by laying down iron bars, or trams, had engaged the attention of practical engineers in England. At first it was contemplated that the service of such roads should be performed by horses, and it was not until the brilliant experiments of Mr. Stephenson on the Liverpool and Manchester railroad, that the possibility of using locomotive engines was fully established. It will be well remembered that the first estimates for railroads in this country were based upon a road track adapted to horse power, and horses were actually used on all the earlier roads.

The necessity of a better communication between Boston and Lowell had been the subject of frequent conversation between Mr. Booth and Mr. Jackson. Estimates had been made and a line surveyed for a Macadamized road. The travel between the two places was rapidly

increasing, and the transportation of merchandise, slowly performed in summer by the Middlesex canal, was done at great cost, and over bad roads in winter, by wagons. At this moment the success of Mr. Stephenson's experiments decided Mr. Jackson. He saw at once, the prodigious revolution that the introduction of steam would make in the business of internal communication. Men were, as yet, incredulous; the cost and the danger attending the use of the new machines were exaggerated, and even if feasible in England, with a city of one hundred and fifty thousand souls at each terminus, such a project, it was argued was quixotical here with our more limited means and sparser population. Mr. Jackson took a different view of the matter, and when after much delay and difficulty, the stock of the road was subscribed for, he undertook to superintend its construction, with the especial object that it might be in every way adapted to the use of steam power, and to that increase of travel and transportation which few had, like him, the sagacity to anticipate. Mr. Jackson was not an engineer, but, full of confidence in his own energy, and in the power he always possessed of eliciting and directing the talent of others, he entered on the task, so new to every one in this country, with the same boldness that he had evinced twenty years before, in the erec-

tion of the first weaving mill. The moment was an anxious one. He was not accustomed to waste time in any of his undertakings. The public looked with eagerness for the road, and he was anxious to begin and to finish it. But he was too wise a man to allow his own impatience, or that of others, to hurry him into action before his plan should be maturely digested. There were, indeed, many points to be attended to, and many preliminary steps to be taken. A charter was to be obtained, and, as yet, no charter for a railroad had been granted in New England. The terms of the charter, and its conditions, were to be carefully considered. The experiment was deemed to be so desirable, and at the same time, so hazardous, that the Legislature was prepared to grant almost any terms that should be asked for. Mr. Jackson on the other hand, whose faith in the success of the new mode of locomotion never faltered, was not disposed to ask for any privileges that would not be deemed moderate after the fullest success had been obtained; at the same time, the recent example of the Charles River Bridge showed the necessity of guarding, by useful provisions, the chartered rights of the stockholders. With respect to the road itself, nearly everything was to be learned. Mr. Jackson established a correspondence with the most distinguished engineers of this country, and

of Europe; and it was not until he had deliberately and satisfactorily solved all the doubts that arose in his own mind, or were suggested by others, that he would allow any step to be decided on. In this way, although more time was consumed than on other roads, a more satisfactory result was obtained. The road was graded for a double track; the grades reduced to a level of ten feet to the mile, all curves, but those of very large radius, avoided, and every part constructed with a degree of strength nowhere else, at that time, considered necessary. A distinguished foreigner, Mr. Charles Chevalier, has spoken of the work on this road as truly, "Cyclopean." Every measure adopted shows conclusively how clearly Mr. Jackson foresaw the extension and capabilities of moral firmness to conceive and carry out these plans. Few persons realize the difficulties of the undertaking, or the magnitude of the results. The shareholders were restless under increased assessments and delayed income. It is not too much to say that no one but Mr. Jackson, in Boston, could at that time have commanded the confidence necessary to enable him to pursue his work so deliberately and so thoroughly. The road was open to travel in 1835, and experience soon justified the wisdom of his anticipations. Its completion and successful operation was a great relief to

Mr. Jackson. For several years it had engrossed his time and attention, and at times deprived him of sleep. He felt it to be a public trust, the responsibility of which was of a nature quite different from that which had attended his previous enterprises. One difficulty that he had encountered in the prosecution of this work led him into a new undertaking, the completion of which occupied him a year or two longer. He felt the great advantage of making the terminus of the road in Boston, and not, as was done in other instances, on the other side of the river. The obstacles appeared, at first sight insurmountable. No land was to be procured in that densely populated part of the city, except at very high prices, and it was not then the public policy to allow the passage of trains through the streets. A mere site for a passenger depot could indeed be obtained, and this seemed to most persons, all that was essential. Such narrow policy did not suit Mr. Jackson's anticipations. It occurred to him that by an extensive purchase of the flats, then unoccupied, the object might be obtained. The excavation making by the railroad at Winter Hill, and elsewhere, within a few miles of Boston, much exceeded the embankments, and would supply the gravel necessary to fill up these flats. Such a speculation not being within the powers of the corporation, a new com-



pany was created for the purpose. The land was made, to the extent of about ten acres, and what was not needed for depots was sold at advantageous prices. It has since been found that even the large provision made by Mr. Jackson is inadequate to the daily increasing business of the railroad. This great and remarkable Irish-American who by his inventions of the power-loom and the railroad had enriched not only his own state but contributed so largely towards the industrial development of all the United States, died at Beverly, Massachusetts, in 1847. Like many others of his race, his name and fame have been excluded from our modern American histories. No monuments have been raised to his memory. "If he had another Christian name," says Thomas D'Arcy McGee, "he would have monuments to his memory. As yet the trump of fame in the east refuses to sound the pre nomen PATRICK: Poor human nature!"

John Holland, Irish-American of Paterson, N. J., member of St. John's Sunday School Association and a teacher for many years in the old St. John's school; was the inventor of the submarine boat. He built a boat and tried it out in the Passaic river above the falls. At first unsuccessful. He tried again with great results. It is stated he offered his plans to the American Government, but they were rejected. He then sold them to a foreign power. The experiments were made about the year 1875 and 1880.

## CHAPTER XII

### LARGE PART TAKEN BY THE IRISH ELEMENT IN THE CIVILIZATION AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH-WESTERN STATES

Since the beginning of the 19th century, Irish immigration has gone West to civilize and develop the six great states carved out of the north-western Indian territories. In most cases they were the pioneer settlers in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio. The facilities of travel westwards, affected by the canals and railroads, as well as the alluring prospects of agriculture, attracted the progress of this Celtic multitude. A glance at the immigrant arrivals in New York alone, for the three years of 1848, 1849 and 1850, taken from the records of the Commissioners of Emigration, will show the large plurality of Irish immigration compared with that of other European countries:

Countries	1848	1849	1850
Ireland .....	98,061	112,561	117,038
Germany .....	51,973	55,705	45,535
England .....	23,062	28,321	28,163
Scotland .....	6,415	8,840	6,772

France .....	2,734	2,683	3,462
Switzerland ....	1,622	1,405	2,380
Holland .....	1,560	2,447	1,173
Norway .....	1,207	3,300	3,150
Wales .....	1,054	1,782	1,520

Many landed at other American ports, as well as New York. Large numbers of Irish came to Canada not only from Ireland, but also from England, and this large Irish stream has been flowing continually towards America, up to late years. Those early western settlers had to face many hardships and difficulties unknown at the present time. It required stout hearts, strong limbs, robust constitutions, and indomitable courage, to start life in those days in the wild west. Little thought is given today by their children and grandchildren, who enjoy the ease and comforts of modern life; of the hardships those strong, brave and fearless men and women, must have endured, in starting life and raising large families in this vast wilderness. Little is thought or appreciated also, of the vast benefits derived by the United States from the industrial expansion and development in the western states by those early Irish settlers.

McGee in his "Irish Settlers of America" has truly stated: "Not only has the increase been mainly in the northwest, but the abundant produce of that fertile region has fed and distended

the older states. For every emigrant who goes up the lakes in spring, an increase of produce, or its price comes down in the harvest. The army of labor makes an annual campaign, and gives a good account of itself in every engagement with the wilderness and the desolation of ancient barrenness. The host that unfurled its standard at Bunker's Hill, and took the British colors down at Yorktown, is scarcely more entitled to be called the army of liberation, than this emigrant multitude, who, armed with the implements of labor, smite the forest from the morning until the evening, and plant, in advance of the ages to come, the starry banner of the nation against the frontier skies." These emigrants were the flower of the youth of Ireland, whom O'Connell portrayed as: "The finest peasantry in Europe." Many of them were females in their teens, with the sweet natural bloom of youth and guileless innocence upon their fair and intellectual faces. Hard indeed was the fate that drove them away from the Old Land to establish a new home, in a strange country—to leave perhaps, forever, their broken-hearted parents and friends—their home, with all its sweet and tender memories, those familiar scenes and childhood companions, "The Isle of Saints and Sages," "The Land of Song and Story," the dear chapels of their devotion, and the graves

of their ancestors, and cross the broad Atlantic in slow and unsanitary vessels, and at length, land on a foreign shore, whence they set out again on a long and difficult journey across mountains and rivers until they finally reached the wild, western prairies. Ask the young girl of today, how she would like, under similar circumstances, often alone and unprotected, to leave home, and face such a long and perilous journey? What was it that supported and protected the young Irish girl, who, perhaps is now your own mother or grandmother? It was her strong abiding faith and trust in the protection and Providence of Almighty God. It was the pious lessons and good example taught her by her saintly mother. It was the beautiful picture and example of the chaste Maiden of Nazareth, the Virgin Mary, that was always presented before her eyes since childhood and held before her as a model and guide she should imitate and follow. It was the parting kiss and embrace at the cottage door of fond parents, who with heart-burning words and scalding tears, yet with the bravery of the Machabean mother, admonished her always to remain pure and faithful to God!—It was the warm-hearted farewell and fervent “God bless and protect you, my child” of the aged and venerable priest, as his consecrated hands rested upon her bowed head, when she came to ask

his prayers and benediction before she started away upon her long and perilous journey. In a word, it was her holy religion which she took with her as her faithful guide and companion to shield and support her wherever she went. Thus fortified and strengthened, that young Irish girl could bravely face all danger, and travel to the remotest parts of the globe, for she knew that whether her prayers were poured out to God upon the boundless wastes of the ocean, or before His glowing altar upon the safe and solid dry land, they reach alike to the ever wakeful Ear of the Lord of the land and sea. And the young man left home, fortified with the same safeguards and bringing with him the same faith and hope, and charity—the same religion to comfort and sustain him in the new, as well as in the Old Land. He brought with him too, a light heart, and superb health of body and mind, together with all the genius of his race, which either under the bright sky of prosperity or the dark clouds of adversity, in the hall of Congress or the smoke of the battlefield, is quick to think and act and brave to do or die. These strong, healthy and brave young men and women, the flowers of the race, were rich gifts that Ireland gave America, and well did they prove their great worth in extending and developing her great industrial resources. The first thought or great-

est desire of the Irish settler, even in the most remote places, was to have a church and priest, and often the remnant of the treasure, great or small, given by his parents to pay the expenses of his long journey, was gladly given, that a church might be built in which he could assist at the same Sacrifice in the wilderness, with the same deep reverence and intense devotion, as he did "away back home" in Holy Ireland. Distance mattered not, nor the difficulty and danger of travel on foot through woods, over swamps, down ravines, and up the craggy slopes, through winter's drifting snow and biting frost or summer's scorching sun, men, women and children were all there, in time every Sunday morning. In due time a clearing was made, and a house built at the edge of the woods or on the hillside, or on the bank of stream or creek, and, at last, the married exile, was in his own home. It might be only a rude structure made of logs, but it was "Home, Sweet Home!" Here a large family of bright-eyed, robust sons and daughters was reared; some of them, destined to fill prominent places in church and state, and all, in due time, to add their quota to the growth and wealth of America. In that log-house were peace, and happiness and hospitality. The winds might blow, the blizzard rage all around, the thunder

roll and the lightning flash through the neighboring trees, the crawling snakes and crouching Indian with his tomahawk, the screeching owls, the prairie dogs, and timber wolves might make the night hideous with their wild howling and barking, but, inside were peaceful rest and sleep: for the rosary was said around the blazing hearth, and God's protecting arm was outstretched, and their guardian angels kept vigil over the sleeping forms of parents and children. The blighting canker of divorce never found entrance to that home. The older father and mother grew, the stronger became their attachment towards each other. The golden chain made by God himself, and which joined them together in wedlock was never severed until death detached it, and the remains of the loved ones were borne by grateful children first to the House of God, and then, reverently interred in the quiet peaceful cemetery beside the little church. Here, every Sunday, the sons and daughters are seen, before or after Mass reverently kneeling in silent prayer, and then, watering the plants and flowers that adorn the last resting place of father and mother! Such was the peasant life in the forest, or on the prairie lands, of those early Irish settlers. The picture is not overdrawn. Many wealthy and prominent citizens of to-day, have lived that early life, or heard it described by their parents or grandparents.



In the early history of these western states many Irishmen were leading figures in state and national affairs. In the United States Senate, Generals Cass and Fitzgerald represented the State of Michigan. Mr. Allen, for many years, represented Ohio. Edward A. Hannigan, who, for some time was minister to Berlin, represented Indiana, and General James Shields, the war horse of the Civil War, and uncle of Rev. Joseph Shields, highly respected pastor of St. Mathew's Church, St. Louis, represented Illinois. D'Arcy McGee in his excellent work, before referred to, states: "Of the six states, Illinois has been distinguished for the number of Irish public servants. Not only in the national councils, but in the not less important duties of organizing the finances and establishing the credit of Illinois, some of our emigrants have performed important services to their adopted state. Of these, one for his industry and abilities, deserves particular mention.

In 1842 the late Mr. Ryan, then a young man was elected to the state Senate, for the district including La Salle, Grundy and Kendall counties." An Illinois Journal treats of Mr. Ryan as follows: "The election of Mr. Ryan at this time, as subsequent events have shown, was a fortunate one for our state. At a dark period of her history the state was bankrupt in means and credit. Involved in debt to the amount of

about sixteen million dollars, there was no hope that she could ever pay any part of that sum unless further means could be obtained to bring the canal, the most available part of her property, into use. Mr. Ryan, then, although but twenty-five years of age, was probably as well informed, in regard to the present and prospective resources of the state, as any man in it. Conceiving that it was necessary to complete the canal in order to save the state, and that money for its completion must be obtained from eastern or foreign capitalists, he justly deemed that it was necessary, in advance of any legislation, to convince those parties that a further advance of money to the state of Illinois was a proper and prudent measure on their part. With this view, he, immediately after his election, in August, 1842 proceeded to New York, and so well did he succeed in effecting his object, that, aided by the advice and assistance of Mr. Arthur Bronson, now deceased, Mr. Justin Butterfield, now Commissioner of the General Land Office, and others, he matured the plan of the canal law of 1843, for raising the sum of sixteen hundred thousand dollars, for completing the canal. On his entrance into the Senate, in December, 1842, he introduced the bill, which was, during that session, passed into a law."

"The supposed mineral riches of the shores

of Lake Superior at that time attracted much attention. Mr. Ryan devoted himself to mining, and was engaged in that pursuit in Pennsylvania, at the time of his death. He had just succeeded in his pursuits to such an extent, as to be able to turn his eyes towards the prairies of his own beautiful state, with the hope of soon again making them his home, when the inexorable fate which awaits us all interposed her fiat, and terminated his career. Thus has Illinois lost, in the prime and vigor of his manhood, one of her most gifted and devoted sons—rich in every endowment that gives value and dignity to humanity. In intellect, among the first; in goodness of heart, surpassed by none. Elegant and accomplished in his manners wherever he has been, and in whatever position he has been placed, he has always commanded the respect and admiration of those who knew him. There was a charm in his manners that seemed to possess a mysterious influence over all who approached him. But by those to whom he was best known, was he best beloved. Those only who knew him well, could know the full worth of his character.”

Many prominent Irish families also enriched the state of Indiana. Among them may be mentioned the O’Gormans, O’Neills, Dowlings and Browns, two of which were members of

Congress. The O'Neill family formerly settled in Carolina, and its members were afterwards among the early pioneers of Indiana. To that family belonged the celebrated John Belton O'Neill, a jurist and a scholar of highest attainments. Hugh O'Neill was educated in the state University at Bloomington, and studied law at Indianapolis. In 1852 he became United States District Attorney for Indiana. Thomas and John Dowling were influential editors and legislators. John held an important office in the Department of Indian Affairs at Washington. Wisconsin contains a large and influential Irish population. Many of its new towns are almost exclusively occupied and governed by Irish citizens. In 1844, Dennis Murphy, who came from Wexford founded the town of Benton, and afterwards represented the county in the State Senate. Many Irish lived in Milwaukee where they became large proprietors of city property. Hon. Timothy Byrne, a native of Dublin, came to Wisconsin from New York in 1836. From 1846 to 1849 he was a member of the legislature; in 1849 and 1850 he was one of the commissioners for the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers, and in 1851 was elected Lieutenant-Governor. Iowa also contains a very large Irish population. In 1851, she named four of her newly surveyed counties as fol-

lows: O'Brien, Mathew, Mitchell and Emmett. Many Irishmen were members of the State Legislature over which they exercised a controlling influence. Some of the old pioneers like Patrick Quigley and judge Corkery, are still held in grateful remembrance by the people of that state.

## CONCLUSION

America has been destined by the Creator of the Universe, to be the fruitful and fertile habitation for a large proportion of the human race. For this purpose, He has endowed her not only with immense territory but also enriched it with an abundance of everything that man may desire—healthy climate, beautiful scenery, fertility of soil, rivers, lakes, forests, and minerals of all kinds. But, all these riches would remain forever useless, if there were no inhabitants to develop these vast resources. America's real wealth, is its population of stalwart men and true women with healthy children to take their places in carrying forward America's great destiny. Among the races that have contributed to this wealth, it must be admitted, that the Irish race has furnished a large proportion. We have seen how they were here in vast numbers in early colonial days, and how many of them were

leaders in state and national affairs.] Emigration from Ireland has continued ever since, until today the Irish element in America, numbers over 20,000,000. It is not in number alone, but especially in their splendid gifts of mind and body that they have enriched America. Not only have they been the chief factor in the achievement of her independence, but they have also been the most active workers in her industrial development and expansion. The laborer of to-day, is only keeping in repair the work done by Irishmen, and it is still necessary to have an Irish foreman at the head of the department to see that the work is done right. Who can estimate the combined wealth produced by these millions? Who can compute the enormous wealth produced, not only for America, but for the world by the steamboat of Robert Fulton, the steam engine and cotton mill of Patrick Tracey Jackson, and the canals of Christopher Colles? No one can measure what these three Irishmen alone added to our wealth, in terms of production and thrift. What race has produced in America or Europe, a greater array of statesmen, orators, poets, writers, physicians, or educators, notwithstanding the obstacles and disadvantages of British penal edicts? In the darkest hour of Ireland's history, the greatest leader of public opinion in England, was the Irishman, Ed-

mund Burke. The greatest orator that was ever heard in the halls of the British Parliament, to whose magnificent sentences Pitt used to beat time as if to music, was Henry Grattan. Of another Irishman—John Philpot Curran, Lord Byrne said: "I have heard more poetry in one half hour listening to Curran speak, than I have ever read in books." "Go through any walk of science, art or literature," says the great Dominican orator, Rev. T. N. Burke, "Look at the soldiers, painters, and poets, and you will find that the choicest laurels of England, have rested on the brows of Irishmen." In our day, the heroic deeds and sacrifices of the men who fought and died for American liberty, are gradually becoming forgotten, or at least, less interesting, consequently, the old, genuine American patriotism is not as strong and pure now, as it was in past years. This is not a healthy growth, because the future greatness of a nation, will decline and perish when her children and grandchildren forget or disparage their glorious ancestry. If this brief narrative of the American Revolution recalls to the minds of its readers, especially of the younger generation, the glorious deeds of the past, thereby producing greater and stronger love and esteem for our American institutions, it will accomplish all the author intends or desires. If

moreover, it brings to light many important facts hitherto carefully omitted from our American histories, and for which the Irish people should have received at least due credit, it will help to supply a much needed want. It is also hoped that it will help to disprove false statements, and elevate the standing of the Irish race at home, and abroad.

Knowledge of the important, and heroic part taken by Ireland at home, and her people here, not only in the great achievement of American liberty, but also in the civilization and development of the United States, should serve to arouse in Irish-Americans a laudable pride in their race, and also to love and appreciate America all the more." x  
 "Some descendants of Irish immigrants (we find)," says Burke, "who are ashamed of their religion because they do not know its doctrine and its history, its sanctity and its glory, ashamed of their origin, because ignorant of Ireland and themselves." The Irish-American should imitate and practise the high qualities and virtues of his ancestry—strong in his faith, proud of his principles, and be above every cowardly compromise with regard to his religion and nationality. He should know and remember the glorious record of his race here and everywhere, and the golden opportunities that await him here in this con-



continent where all races are contending for the foremost rank. True to the instincts and traditions of the past, faithful to the laws and institutions of America, kind and faithful to each other and encouraging to all, let him press forward in the battle of life to the goal of victory, always ready to defend the American flag against every enemy, foreign or domestic. The men and women of Ireland, have from the beginning, largely helped to build the free institutions of America. They are no intruders here. They are not here by the tolerance of any party. By the laws of the land, and by virtue of their own labors and those of their race, they stand free and equal among the inhabitants of this Confederacy. Speaking of the Irish race in America, Right Rev. A. J. McGavick said: "We have planted the "Tree of State," and plentifully watered and fertilized it with our blood; and we have a right to sit under it and enjoy its shade, and reach up and pluck and eat of the fruit thereof."

THE END

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John H. Campbell, History of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

A. M. Sullivan, M. P., Story of Ireland.

Abbe MacGeoghegan, History of Ireland.

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